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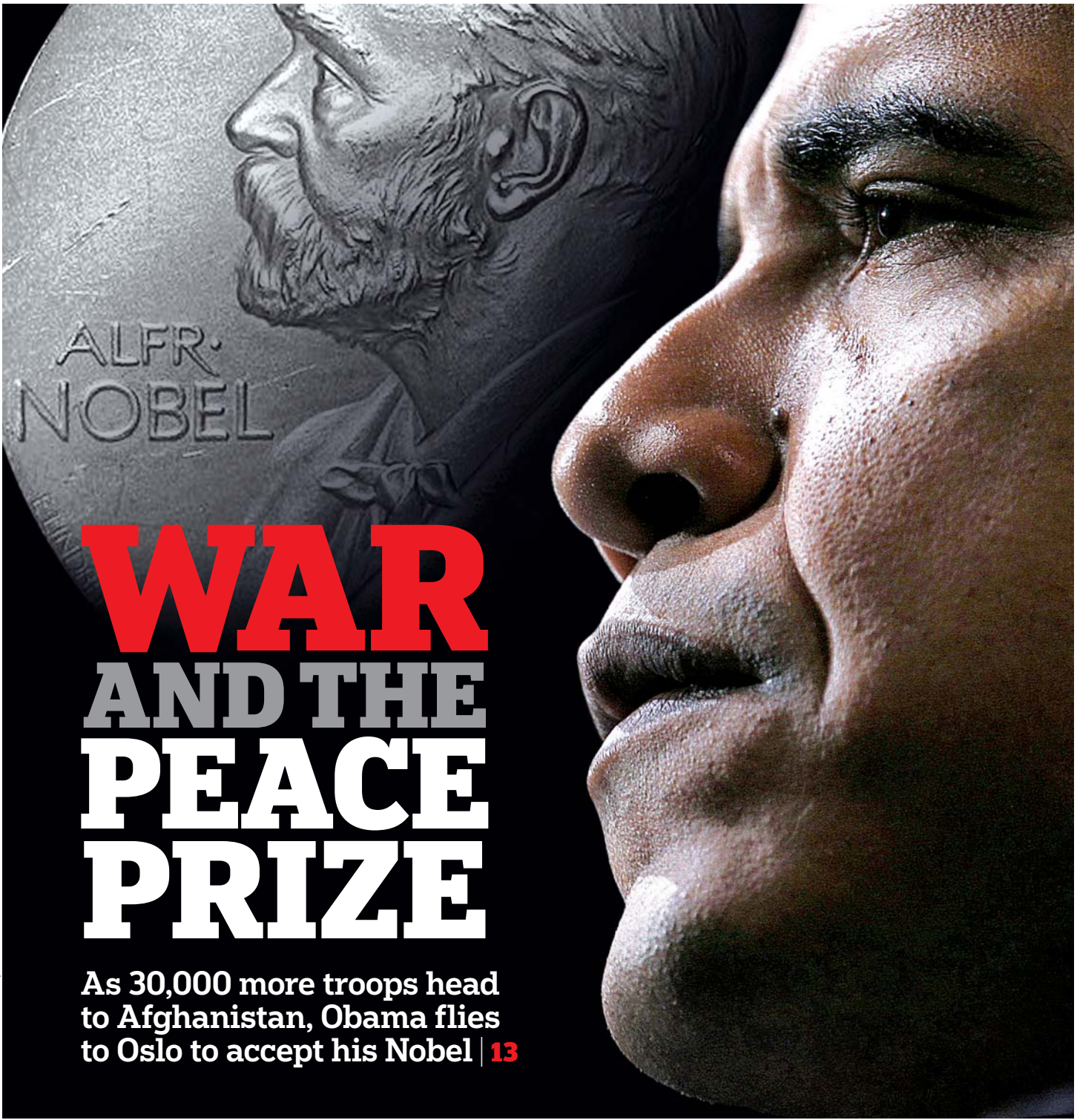


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EYE OPENERS

Annoying Impression Of Mom Inaccurate, Too

Police said a Franklin, N.J., man dressed up as his mother in an attempt to withdraw money from her bank account. Tita Nyambi, 25, was arrested Monday after tellers reported that a man wearing women's clothes and speaking in a high-pitched voice was trying to withdraw money through the bank's drive-through window. Nyambi handed tellers his mother's license and a form on which her signature was forged. (AP)

"I wasn't surprised at all, because the dairy industry has needed a miracle for a long time, and this is it."



— MEGAN JOHNSON OF STERLING, CONN., ON A CALF BORN WITH A CROSS MARK ON ITS FOREHEAD. OWNER BRENT DAVIS SAYS THE ANIMAL, SHOWN, HAS BEEN NAMED MOSES.

Toledo Library: Sleep With One Eye Open, Book Thief

A book has been mailed back to an Ohio library after six decades, accompanied by an anonymous letter of remorse. The biography "Napoleon" by Emil Ludwig recently arrived at Toledo's main library, with a note that read: "I removed this book from your stacks in 1949 and did not check it out. I apologize. It's an excellent book and in good condition." The person also wrote, "Carrying guilt for 60 years is a terrible thing." (AP)

The Big Picture



FRANK AUGSTEIN/AP

TROPICAL FISH, TURTLES AND SHARKS got "cookies" made of coalfish from Santa Claus at the Sea Life aquarium in Oberhausen, Germany, on Wednesday. The sea creatures will also listen to holiday songs until Christmas Eve when, apparently, someone will have mercy on them and turn it off. (EXPRESS)

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Recession Has People Staying Put

Trends

The wanderlust that helped define the American character has been reined in by the recession and the collapse in housing prices, according to a study showing fewer Americans changing residences than

at any time since World War II.

20 The average percentage of Americans who changed homes each year during the 1950s and 1960s.

About 12 percent of Americans moved in each of the past two years, down from 13 to 14 percent a year during the first part of this decade.

In any given year throughout the 1990s, 16 to 17 percent of Americans changed homes. William Frey, the Brookings Institution demographer who wrote the study, said the economic slowdown has accelerated a long-term trend of people growing more rooted as homeownership has risen and society has gotten older. Add the bursting of the housing bubble, the credit crisis and the resulting recession, and many people are cemented in place. CAROL MORELLO

(THE WASHINGTON POST)

Dems All Smiles on Health Deal

Senate compromise on insurance option may hasten key vote

Washington

President Obama, and Democratic liberals and moderates all found something to like Wednesday in an emerging compromise to expand the role of government in the nation's health care system, raising hopes inside the party that passage of overhaul legislation might be within reach after a struggle lasting decades.

The same plan drew critics, though — and the threat of more opponents once closely held details become widely known.

Obama hailed “a creative new framework that I believe will help pave the way for final passage of legislation and a historic achievement for the American people.” He said, “I support this effort, especially since it’s aimed at increasing choice and competition and lowering cost.”

A provision opening Medicare to uninsured Americans between



HARRY HAMBURG/AP

Senate Majority Leader Harry Reid called the new health care deal a significant step.

the ages of 55 and 64 drew praise from some liberals.

Rep. Anthony Weiner, D-N.Y., called it “an unvarnished, complete victory for people like me who have been arguing for a single-payer system.”

Howard Dean, the former Democratic Party chairman and an advocate of a government-run

health insurance option, told CBS, “Using Medicare makes more sense than reinventing more bureaucracy.”

Senate Majority Leader Harry Reid, D-Nev., described the agreement as a significant step in the struggle to round up the votes needed to pass the broader overhaul legislation. The House has

The New Plan

The idea of a full-blown government-run insurance option, heatedly debated for months, would be jet-tisoned under the tentative agreement reached by Senate Democratic liberals and moderates and announced Tuesday night. In its place would be the expansion of Medicare, and new nationwide private plans to be run by the same agency that oversees the system that lawmakers use for themselves and their families. (AP)

already passed its version, and Democrats are driving for a Senate vote before Christmas.

That would leave only a final compromise between the houses before legislation could go to Obama for his signature.

Many officials declined to discuss details of the health care deal, heeding an admonition that if they did, the Congressional Budget Office would feel compelled to release preliminary cost estimates that lawmakers prefer to receive secretly.

DAVID ESPO (AP)



SWEET SURRENDER

The manufacturer of Lucky Charms, Trix and Cocoa Puffs plans to reduce the amount of sugar in its kids' cereals. The move by General Mills comes amid growing scrutiny from consumers and health groups about the nutritional value of foods marketed to children. General Mills said it will cut the sugar in 10 of its cereals to single-digit grams of sugar per serving. The sugar in Cocoa Puffs, for example, could drop at least 25 percent. (AP)

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Nation

TSA Puts Workers On Leave in Breach

Posting on the Web leaked some secrets of airport screening

Washington

Five Transportation Security Administration employees have been placed on administrative leave since it was discovered that sensitive guidelines about airport passenger screening were posted on the Internet.

Assistant Homeland Security secretary David Heyman told senators Wednesday that a full investigation into the Internet security lapse is under way and the TSA employees have been taken off duty pending the results of that probe.

A TSA official who spoke on condition of anonymity because of

the ongoing investigation said five employees were placed on administrative leave Tuesday.

The Homeland Security Department has also stopped posting documents with security information either in full or in part on the Internet until the TSA review is complete, Heyman told the Senate Homeland Security and Governmental Affairs committee.

The passenger screening document was improperly on the Internet in a way that could offer insight into how to sidestep security.

Heyman said he did not know who at the TSA signed off on the document's being put on the Web.

The TSA removed the document from the Internet on Sunday after the lapse was reported on a blog. The TSA said the document is now outdated. **EILEEN SULLIVAN (AP)**

A Shovel-Ready Project



A MAN BRAVES THE ELEMENTS to clear snow Wednesday in Omaha, Neb., after more than 12 inches of snow fell there overnight. The snowstorm that buried the Midwest on Tuesday was creeping east on Wednesday and was expected to drop more than a foot of snow in parts of Illinois, Wisconsin and Iowa.

NATHANIK/AP

Bailout Funding Extended Until October of 2010

Washington

The Obama administration has extended the \$700 billion financial bailout program until October, setting up a struggle between Democrats who favor using some of the leftover money to help generate jobs and Republicans who say it should be used to shrink soaring budget deficits.

The administration insists the bailout fund is still needed to prevent further turmoil in the banking system. In announcing the decision, Treasury Secretary Timothy Geithner said extending the program also will help homeowners and small businesses. **(AP)**



Geithner

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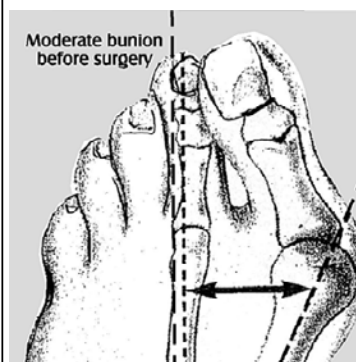
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Nation



Mark Sanford's second and final term as South Carolina governor ends in early 2011.

Sanford Unlikely To Be Impeached

S.C. lawmakers vote to censure governor in wake of scandal

Columbia, S.C.

South Carolina lawmakers voted down a measure to impeach Gov. Mark Sanford on Wednesday but recommended a formal rebuke that said his trysts with an Argentine mistress brought the state "ridicule, dishonor, disgrace and shame."

Some members of a legislative panel said the Republican should resign, but they mostly agreed his affair and use of state planes was not serious misconduct that merited removal from office.

Instead, the seven lawmakers unanimously approved a resolution saying he has "brought ridicule, dishonor, disgrace, and shame not only upon Governor Sanford

but upon this state and its citizens which rises to a level which requires a formal admonishment and censure."

Sanford has been under scrutiny since June, when he tearfully revealed a yearlong affair. Ensuing probes of his travel and campaign spending led to more than three dozen state ethics charges. His second and final term ends in January 2011.

"We can't impeach for hypocrisy. We can't impeach for arrogance. We can't impeach an officeholder for his lack of leadership skills," said Rep. James Harrison, a Republican who headed the panel.

Technically, the outcome of Wednesday's vote will be sent as a recommendation to a full House Judiciary panel, which could revive an impeachment effort. However, that is unlikely given the margin of the vote. **JIM DAVENPORT (AP)**

Hearsay



"Afghanistan is no more hopeless than Iraq was when I took command there in February 2007."

— **GEN. DAVID PETRAEUS**, EXPRESSING SUPPORT FOR THE ESCALATION OF U.S. FORCES IN AFGHANISTAN DURING TESTIMONY ON CAPITOL HILL WEDNESDAY.



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In Brief



A Philippine police officer posts photos of suspects in a political massacre.

MANILA, PHILIPPINES

Police Name 100 More Suspects in Massacre

Police named 100 government militiamen as additional suspects in the Philippines' worst political massacre Wednesday as prosecutors filed rebellion charges against a powerful clan accused of ordering the brutal attack on a rival's campaign convoy. Fifty-seven people were killed in the Nov. 23 attack. (AP)

GENEVA

CERN Records Collisions

The world's largest atom smasher has recorded its first high-energy collisions of protons, a spokeswoman at the European Organization for Nuclear Research, or CERN, said Wednesday. The collisions occurred Tuesday as the Large Hadron Collider underwent tests in preparation for operations next year. (AP)

LONDON

Banker Taxes Raised

The British government on Wednesday announced a steep tax on bonuses for bankers. In his pre-budget report to Parliament, treasury chief Alistair Darling urged bank directors to rebuild their financial strength rather than spending on bonuses — which will now be subject to a one-time 50 percent tax. "I am determined to claw money back for the taxpayer," Darling said. (AP)

TEHRAN, IRAN

Iran Says U.N. Is Spying

Iran claimed Wednesday that a newly built U.N. station to detect nuclear explosions was set up near its border so that world powers could spy on the country. Construction was completed last week on the seismic monitoring station in neighboring Turkmenistan. (AP)

Pakistan Detains Five U.S. Men

Americans with D.C. roots are investigated for links to terrorism

Washington

Five young Americans captured in Pakistan are under investigation for possible links to terrorism after their families found a disturbing farewell video the missing men left behind showing scenes of war and casualties, and saying Muslims must be defended.

Frantic relatives and worried FBI agents have been searching for the five men for more than a week,

since their disappearance in late November. The missing men, ranging in age from 19 to 25, have family roots in the Northern Virginia and Washington, D.C., areas.

Two U.S. officials, speaking on condition of anonymity because they were not authorized to discuss the case, said the five are believed to be under arrest in Pakistan.

On the heels of charges against a Chicago man accused of plotting international terrorism, the case is another worrisome sign that Americans can be recruited within the United States to enlist in terrorist networks.

Leaders of an Islamic Ameri-

Local Ties

U.S. officials identified one of the five men arrested in Pakistan as Ramy Zamzam, a dental student at Howard University. A Howard University spokesman confirmed Zamzam was a student there but declined further comment. (AP)

can group said the families of the five men asked the FBI for help and were particularly disturbed to see the video message.

"One person appeared in that video and they made references to the ongoing conflict in the world,

and that young Muslims have to do something," said Nihad Awad, of the Council on American-Islamic Relations, or CAIR.

"The video's about 11 minutes, and it's like a farewell. And they did not specify what they would be doing," Awad said. The video has not been made public.

In Pakistan, police officer Tahir Gujjar said five Americans were picked up in a raid on a house in Sarghoda in the eastern province of Punjab. He did not identify them but said three are of Pakistani descent, one is of Egyptian descent and the other has Yemeni heritage.

DEVLIN BARRETT AND PAMELA HESS (AP)

Israelis Protest Housing Ban



RIGHT-WING ISRAELI YOUTH rally on Wednesday in Jerusalem against a ban on most new West Bank Jewish housing settlements. About 10,000 people gathered for the evening protest against the 10-month halt in construction imposed by Prime Minister Benjamin Netanyahu. The ban is designed to encourage resumption of peace talks with Palestinians.

Hearsay



"I have a crazy urge to be free, but there is only one path I have chosen for leaving here, and that is the appeal that my lawyers are preparing."

— **AMANDA KNOX**, THE AMERICAN STUDENT CONVICTED OF MURDER LAST WEEK IN ITALY, QUOTED IN THE ITALIAN NEWSPAPER *CORRIERE DELLA SERA*. KNOX SAID SHE HAD RECEIVED A FAIR TRIAL.



Activists rally for Tuvalu Wednesday.

Tuvalu Climate Proposal Fails

Copenhagen

Declaring "it's a matter of survival," one of the tiniest nations, speaking for imperiled islands everywhere, took on global industrial and oil powers Wednesday at the U.N. climate summit — and lost.

"Madam President, the world is watching us. The time for procrastination is over," Ian Fry, delegate of the mid-Pacific state of Tuvalu, declared as he asked the full conference for more aggressive curbing of greenhouse gas emissions than is being considered.

The rejection illustrates the rich-poor divide that overshadows the conference, a reality that has already led some islands to consider evacuation should international action on climate ultimately fall short. (AP)

Iraqi PM Under Fire After Blasts

Lawmakers urge top officials to quit after massive bombings

Baghdad

The prime minister appealed Wednesday to Iraqis to stand by their security forces, even as angry lawmakers demanded answers and called on top officials to resign after the third major attack against government sites since summer.

Nouri al-Maliki was expected to attend a special parliamentary session Thursday where lawmakers have demanded his interior and defense ministers appear to answer



Iraqis on Wednesday look at cars wrecked by Tuesday's suicide blasts in Baghdad.

questions about how bombers once again found holes in security in heavily guarded central Baghdad, according to the parliament speak-

er's spokesman.

But al-Maliki appeared ready to make some changes. On Wednesday, he ordered a shake-up at the

top of Baghdad security — moving the deputy chief, Lt. Gen. Ahmed Hashim Ouda, to the top spot. The current commander, veteran military leader Lt. Gen. Abboud Qanbar, will take Ouda's post, state television said.

The shuffle, however, doesn't come close to the purges demanded by some lawmakers and critics.

Al-Maliki warned against fomenting political divisions after Tuesday's bombings that killed at least 127 and wounded more than 500 in the Iraqi capital.

"I call on the Iraqi people for more patience and steadfastness," he said Wednesday in a televised address. **CHELSEA J. CARTER (AP)**

REUNIONS



The owner of a dog that miraculously survived Tuesday's attacks in Baghdad returned to his collapsed home Wednesday to be reunited with his pet, stunning neighbors who thought the man was dead. The 6-year-old dog named Liza was spotted chained to a roof railing on a ledge over the ruined home near Iraq's Finance Ministry. Liza appeared to be shaking with joy as she was reunited with Farouq Omar Muhei, 46. **(AP)**

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World

Pay Hikes Boost Afghan Army

U.S. commanders say recruitment surged with salary increases

Kabul

U.S. commanders in Afghanistan are reporting a sudden surge in Afghan army recruits this month, a much-needed boost after Afghan President Hamid Karzai said his security forces may not be able to take over from U.S. troops for up to five more years.

The uptick followed an autumn slump in Afghan army recruitment, and U.S. military officials attributed the sudden jump to promised pay hikes rather than President Obama's announcement that U.S. troops will start leaving in 18 months.

"If we continue recruiting like we did, we'll make it," Lt. Gen. William B. Caldwell, head of the



An Afghan soldier stands watch near Yousef Khel, Afghanistan, last month.

Afghan training mission, told reporters on Wednesday.

The Obama administration had earlier this year outlined a goal of setting up a viable security force of 400,000 by 2013, and Caldwell

2,659

The number of Afghans who applied to join the security forces in the first seven days of December — about half of this month's objective. Only 830 recruits signed up in September.

was measuring his progress against that figure. The top U.S. commander in Afghanistan, however, has backed off the goal of 400,000 in recent weeks.

Lt. Gen. David Rodriguez, the No. 2 U.S. commander in Afghanistan, and Caldwell said increased pay for police officers and extra money for soldiers engaged in heavy combat helped breathe new life into the training effort.

The figures were a bright spot in the otherwise slow effort to blunt the Taliban while building a capable security force. **ANNE FLAHERTY (AP)**



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Costco Reaches Ft. Lincoln Deal

Officials say Target may also move into proposed D.C. facility

Washington

Wholesale grocer Costco has reached an agreement to open a store in the planned Fort Lincoln development, a major boost to a project that has been stalled by the sluggish economy.

D.C. Council member Kwame Brown, D-At Large, chairman of the Economic Development Committee, said Costco executives finalized an agreement with the Fort Lincoln developers Wednesday.



Costco — shown at Pentagon City in Arlington — does not have a store in the District.

JONATHAN NEWTON/TWP

By the end of the week, Brown said, Target may also have finalized plans to move into the proposed 375,000-square-foot shopping center just inside the District line, bound by New York, South Dakota and Eastern avenues.

In 2005, the council approved a \$10 million loan for the Washington Gateway shopping center.

Costco, which doesn't have a D.C. store, was long expected to anchor the project. But the project stalled until recently. As part of the latest deal, Brown said, the council might have to approve more financing. "If this happens, we send a signal D.C. is back open for business," Brown said.

TIM CRAIG (THE WASHINGTON POST)

Salahi Resigns From Tourism Board Job in Va.

Richmond, Va.

White House party crasher Tareq Salahi resigned from the Virginia Tourism Board Monday.

Gov. Tim Kaine said last week that he asked Secretary of the Commonwealth Katherine Hanley to look into whether Salahi should remain on the board. Kaine appointed him to the board in 2006 as his previous term on the Virginia Winery Board was concluding.

Sen. Thomas Norment, the Republican leader in the state Senate, asked Kaine to remove Salahi from the board. (TWP)

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Local

Vouchers Likely to Stay Limited

Washington

Congress appears likely to keep the D.C. voucher program closed to new students but open to those already enrolled, curtailing hopes of advocates who had pressed for a full revival of the controversial program.

The news is buried deep within a proposed thousand-page omnibus spending bill released Monday by a joint conference of House and Senate Appropriations Committee members. The proposal would also tighten accountability measures for schools that participate in the program, which provides low-income D.C. students with up to \$7,500 per year to attend private schools.

Backstory

At contentious hearings earlier this fall, Senate Majority Whip Richard J. Durbin, D-ILL., accused the Washington Scholarship Fund of failing to exercise sufficient oversight, questioning the quality of some of the schools in the program.

Bringing further upheaval to the program, the Washington Scholarship Fund, the nonprofit organization that has administered the vouchers since their creation in 2003, told the Education Department last week that it planned to withdraw from that role at the end of this school year

if the program is not reauthorized by the end of January. Congressional staffers say it is unlikely that a vote will be brought by then.

That leaves the Education Department to administer the program itself or to find a new group to do it.

In the letter, fund administrators wrote that the uncertainty about the program's fate "makes it virtually impossible" for the organization to prepare for the application and renewal process.

The spending bill does not address whether the program will be reauthorized. That will be put to a vote sometime later in the winter or spring. MICHAEL BIRNBAUM (THE WASHINGTON POST)

washingtonpost.com



POLITICAL BUTTON HAWKER Frank Enten, 78, has been shooed off countless street corners by D.C. police for selling without a license. But with the help of a lawyer, Enten has taken the city to court, claiming that his trade is a constitutionally protected form of free speech. | washingtonpost.com/local

SoberRides Set To Begin Friday

Washington

The Washington Regional Alcohol Program's annual effort to keep inebriated people from driving will begin Friday, offering free taxis rides home in communities across the area.

The Holiday SoberRide program offers the transportation service from 10 p.m. to 6 a.m. until 6 a.m. on Jan 1. People older than 21 should call 800-200-8294. Participants are required to pay any amount above \$50.

Calls must originate in Montgomery or Prince George's counties; the District; or Arlington, Fairfax, Prince William or eastern Loudoun counties. ASHLEY HALSEY III (THE WASHINGTON POST)

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Give War a Chance

President Obama confronts the irony of accepting a peace prize in wartime

Washington

President Obama will accept the world's best-known peace award by explaining what it means to wage war, an incongruity that has weighed on him and that he will take on directly when he receives the Nobel Peace Prize, White House officials say.

The president is dashing to Oslo in an overnight flight, in time to be there for Thursday's award ceremony and banquet and not much more. His minimalist approach reflects a White House that sees little value in touting an honor for peace just nine days after Obama announced he was sending 30,000 more U.S. troops to the war in Afghanistan.

The contrast has been stark for weeks. Obama won the award in early October, just as his review of a revamped war plan was intensifying. He and two speechwriters pivoted attention to the Nobel address the very day after Obama announced he was escalating the U.S. forces in Afghanistan to their highest levels. So, Obama, honored for strengthening international diplomacy, will use his speech to discuss what goes into the decision to expand a war.

When asked whether Obama was excited about the award, national security aide and speech-



President Obama poses with cadets after his speech last week announcing his plan to send additional troops to Afghanistan.

Norwegian Reaction

Feeling Snubbed

President Obama won't be spending much time in Norway after his Nobel acceptance speech, and many of the residents there are none too happy about it. On Wednesday, the Guardian reported that Norwegians were "incensed" that Obama plans to skip many of the events that are usually part of the peace prize celebration. Norwegians were particularly angry that Obama declined an invitation to go to lunch with Norway's King Harald, though the president will see him at some point during his visit. (EXPRESS)

writer Ben Rhodes responded: "I think he feels as if it places a responsibility upon him."

"It's the company that you keep as a Nobel laureate that I think makes the deepest impression upon him," said Rhodes. "That kind of adds an extra obligation to essentially extend the legacy."

The president is expected to outline his vision of American leadership and emphasize the responsibilities of all nations to



Security Concerns

The security operation put in place for President Obama's visit to Oslo is the largest police operation ever undertaken in the country, costing \$16 million. Last week, city crews welded shut more than 400 manholes and erected barricades to help control the crowds expected to surge into the capital when Obama arrives. On Wednesday, Norwegian police armed with machine guns guarded the Grand Hotel as bulletproof glass was installed for Thursday evening's procession. AFP reported that anti-aircraft missiles were being moved into place at the airport in anticipation of Obama's arrival. (AP)

advance the cause of peace.

Obama's selection for the award by the Norwegian Nobel Committee was such a stunner that even the White House had no idea it was coming. Obama quickly said he did not think he deserved it and that it was really meant to boost a new U.S. approach to world affairs.

Amid the enormous worldwide reaction to Obama's win, the prevailing response was almost confusion: He won for what, exactly?

The Nobel panel cited Obama's work toward freeing the world of nuclear weapons, combatting global warming, embracing international institutions and leading based on values shared by most of the people around the world. On that front, he was deemed nothing less than "the world's leading spokesman." BEN FELLER (AP)

WORDS OF INSPIRATION

President Obama is writing much of the Nobel Peace Prize address himself and has reportedly been reading speeches by past winners for inspiration. He may be paying particularly close attention to Martin Luther King Jr.'s famous acceptance speech in 1964. In his statement, King said: "I refuse to accept the view that mankind is so tragically bound to the starless midnight of racism and war that the bright daybreak of peace and brotherhood can never become a reality. I refuse to accept the cynical notion that nation after nation must spiral down a militaristic stairway into the hell of thermonuclear destruction. I believe that unarmed truth and unconditional love will have the final word in reality. This is why right temporarily defeated is stronger than evil triumphant."



JOHN MCCONNICO/AP

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Redskins Change Backs Again

Ganter promoted ahead of Cartwright for game vs. Raiders

Pro Football

The Washington Redskins are making yet another change in the backfield.

Quinton Ganther will start Sunday's game at Oakland. He becomes the team's fourth starting running back this season.

Ganter moves ahead of Rock Cartwright, who started the last two games.

Clinton Portis started the first eight games before suffering a



Quinton Ganther will be Washington's fourth starting running back this year.

Sneaking a Peak

The Redskins are looking ahead to next year. Owner Daniel Snyder and VP of football operations Vinny Cerrato have been scouting college QBs Colt McCoy and Jimmy Clausen. (rwp)

season-ending concussion. Ladell Betts took over for two games before his season ended with torn knee ligaments.

Cartwright rushed for only 77 yards on 28 carries in his two starts. "I'm a little disappointed, but what can I do about it?" Cartwright said. "I'm not going to lose no sleep over it. I've still got a job."

Cartwright hopes to regain his spot as the team's top return man. Devin Thomas has been filling in since Cartwright took more of a load in the run game.

Ganter has been signed, released and re-signed by the Redskins during this season. The second-year back from Utah ran 13 times for 78 yards — a 6-yard average — while backing up Cartwright the last two games.

"I'm getting the opportunity that I haven't had to show people what I can do," Ganther said. "I just worked harder than anybody. The longer you keep your feet in the door, the better opportunity you have." (AP)

GOLDEN RULES



It's time to rewrite the Olympic record books: There was no gold medal winner in the women's 100 meters at the 2000 games. The IOC on Wednesday reallocated two individual medals stripped from Marion Jones for doping, but in an unprecedented move, it withheld her prize from Greece's Katerina Thanou for evading drug tests at the 2004 Athens Olympics. (AP)

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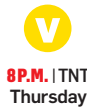
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Sports



While Gilbert Arenas, left, has struggled, Earl Boykins, center, has excelled.

Wiz's Big Three Coming Up Small



Pro Basketball

The anticipation of getting Gilbert Arenas, Antawn Jamison and Caron Butler healthy at the same time has far exceeded what they have been able to accomplish so far this season. They have impressive individual résumés, seven combined All-Star Game appearances and reputations for clutch performances, but the Washington Wizards are still waiting for them to form a potent trio that is capable of consistently leading the team to wins.

Entering Thursday night's game against the Boston Celtics, the Wizards were 4-5 in the nine games that Arenas, Jamison and Butler

have played together this season; they're 3-7 when one or more has been out. The threesome will combine to make more than \$37 million this season, nearly 48 percent of the payroll. But the player who has been most dependable in the fourth quarter is Earl Boykins, a 5-foot-5 player on a non-guaranteed contract worth about \$1.2 million.

Coach Flip Saunders gave an exasperated chuckle when asked why none of his three former All-Stars has been able to take over games in the final period.

"We're putting the ball in those guys' hands, and they're not making plays," Saunders said of the trio, which averages a combined 57.1 points. "Earl doesn't necessarily want to be the guy, but sometimes those other guys don't have it, and so he ends up being the guy."

MICHAEL LEE (THE WASHINGTON POST)

TV Lineup

NBA (8 P.M. TNT) The dysfunctional Wizards host the Boston Celtics on national television, followed by the Orlando Magic visiting the Utah Jazz.
PRO FOOTBALL (8 P.M., NFL NETWORK) The world champion Pittsburgh Steelers, fighting for their play-off lives, take on the awful Cleveland Browns.

COLLEGE HOOPS (9 P.M., ESPN) One of the most impressive teams in the country, Syracuse, battles Florida in Tampa, Fla.
MORE COLLEGE HOOPS (6:30 P.M. AND 8:30 P.M., ESPN2) Mississippi State takes on Big East doormat DePaul, and then Cincinnati plays in-state rival Miami (Ohio).

House Panel Backs College Playoff Bill

College Football

A House subcommittee approved legislation Wednesday aimed at forcing college football to switch to a playoff system to determine its national champion, over the objections of some lawmakers who said Congress has meatier targets to tackle.

The bill, which faces steep odds, would ban the promotion of a post-season NCAA Division I Football Bowl Subdivision game as a national championship unless it results from a playoff. The measure passed by voice vote in a House Energy and

Commerce Committee subcommittee, with one audible “no,” from Rep. John Barrow, D-Ga.

“With all due respect, I really think we have more important things to spend our time on,” Barrow said.

The BCS selections pit two unbeaten teams, No. 1 Alabama and No. 2 Texas, in the title game. Three other undefeated teams — TCU, Cincinnati and Boise State — will play in a BCS bowl game, but not for the championship.

“What can we say? It’s December, and the BCS is in chaos again,” said Rep. Joe Barton, R-Texas. (AP)

China Is Golden Against Japan



CHINA'S HUI RUOQI spikes the ball in front of Japan's Miku Izuoka, and Rina Urabe during the women's volleyball final of the East Asian Games on Wednesday in Hong Kong. The Chinese team won the match in three sets.

Hearsay



“When you’ve got some good looks like myself, you’ve got to take full advantage of it.”

— **TERRELL OWENS**, EXPLAINING AT THE BUFFALO BILLS’ PRACTICE ON WEDNESDAY HIS DECISION TO SIGN WITH A MODELING FIRM.

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Sports

Hoyas Drive for Balance

Supporting cast will need to take pressure off Monroe this year

College Basketball

Considering he came to Georgetown as one of the top recruits in the country, it was no surprise that during a sometimes dominant 24-point, 14-rebound performance in a 72-65 victory over No. 20 Butler Tuesday night, sophomore Greg Monroe was lavished with praise from analysts.

But after the game was over, perhaps the most telling sign that this year's fast start isn't just a precursor to another conference season collapse came from the mouth of Butler coach Brad Stevens.

"The hard part tonight of guarding Georgetown was Freeman's proficiency," he told reporters.

He was referencing the four 3-pointers and season-high 18 points junior Austin Freeman netted. And while many think of Georgetown's potential this season in terms of how far Monroe has progressed, perhaps more important is how much his supporting cast has improved.

Through seven wins heading into Saturday's game against Washington, the results indicate



Sophomore Jason Clark takes a shot in Georgetown's win over Butler on Tuesday.

Backstory

Under John Thompson III's version of the so-called "Princeton offense," Georgetown has always looked for a balance attack. The epitome of Thompson's vision came in 2007, when five players averaged at least nine points per game. Led by forward Jeff Green and center Roy Hibbert, the Hoyas reached the Final Four that season. (EXPRESS)

a team that's far more than Monroe and a bunch of bums. Freeman and classmate Chris Wright — and sophomore Jason Clark — are all averaging at least 12 points per game this season.

It's hoped the trio's improve-

ment will ensure Georgetown won't fade after a strong start to the season, as was the case when the Hoyas missed the NCAA tournament.

Led by Clark at 64.5 percent, all three supporting characters have a higher field goal percentage than Monroe, whose efficiency from the floor has actually dropped from 57.6 percent as a freshman to 46.1 percent this year. That fact wasn't lost on Stevens during his postgame press conference.

"If you told me that [Monroe] would attempt 20 shots and 10 free throws and wind up with 24 points, that's not all bad," he said. "But we needed to do a better job with the perimeter guys."

MARK GIANNOTTO

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"I am Orson Welles!" shouts Christian McKay, portraying the great director in a scene from Richard Linklater's eponymous film, "Me and Orson Welles." It's a gutsy performance in a gutsy movie starring newcomer McKay, modern-day matinee idol Zac Efron and industry veteran Claire Danes. Linklater ("Dazed and Confused," "Slacker," "School of Rock") brings the razzle-dazzle showbiz of 1937 into focus with his latest slice of life caught on celluloid. "Welles" is about the legendary filmmaker (then age 22) putting on a theater production of "Julius Caesar" as it lurches toward opening night.

Did you know what you were getting into when casting Zac Efron?

I met Zac and thought he was right for the part. The screaming teen girls that flock to him, well, that may be a new demographic attending one of my movies. It doesn't

matter to me if they're a 12-year-old kid or have made 70 films — I cast my movies with the right people in the parts for me. I want the team to work together, to be subtly different with each take. I require a lot of rehearsal time.

For every movie like this one, you've also made crowd-pleasers. Do the artier, smaller films make the broader films possible?

I'm glad that I earned this latitude. I get to do all different kind of films. People expect a certain kind of you after the first four or five. But my movies are all different. ... As a director, you've got this palette. With this movie I tried to make it seem alive in 1937.

Did you feel any pressure interpreting the man with the heaviest shadow in the cinema?

In a way, our film is the opposite of Wellesian. If we had approached the film with a "Here's the 'Citizen



Richard Linklater

FILMMAKER, "ME AND ORSON WELLES"

Kane' shot," it would have been so inappropriate. We wanted to put Welles in a genre he'd never have done himself.

How did you and Christian McKay

approach the role?

Christian and I spent months, literally months, on this character, how to pull this off. It could have felt like an imitation, or some kind of send-up. Christian avoided that, though.

"We wanted to put [Orson] Welles in a genre he'd never have done himself."

He brought himself to Orson — the eyebrow, the cigars, the head cock, the smirk. The spirit of his performance goes far beyond impersonation of the Wellesian figure. He has a big, brilliant presence and personality that's the work of a true showman.

His appetite also seems to have been kept intact on film.

I want the viewer to feel him spreading his wings as a director. His appetite, for everything, is constantly growing — it's what he was all about. You think, "This could get him into trouble someday."

CHRISTOPHER ROY CORREA

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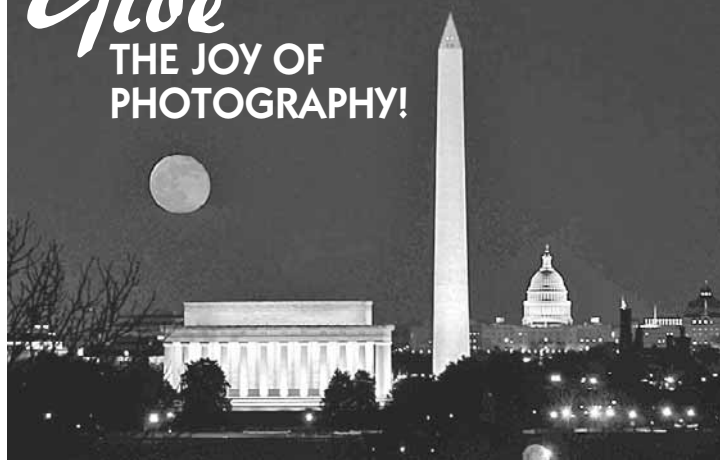
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A Family With Missing Pieces

The tribe in 'August: Osage County' is on a path of destruction

Stage

Anyone who's ever sat through "King Lear" (or a particularly fraught episode of "Keeping Up With the Kardashians") knows that a pack of sisters dwelling in one house often adds up to a heap of familial tension.

In "August: Osage County," Tracy Letts' dark dramedy, the action centers on three adult female siblings who've come home to help their pill-popping, profanity-spew-

ing elderly mother, Violet (Estelle Parsons), deal with their father's mysterious disappearance.

Anyone expecting a Hallmark-style, touching reunion won't last through the first 10 minutes of this three-plus-hour show, when it becomes clear that, instead of forgiveness, catharsis or walks down memory lane, a bunch of nasty revelations and big fights are going to go down.

In a sprawling, three-story bleak house of a set that recalls every Grandma's spread in mid-America (faux Colonial chairs, teetering book piles), the clan trades barbs and reveals buried secrets, all while trying to figure out what became



Jeff Still and Estelle Parsons star in Tracy Letts' "August: Osage County."

of dear old Dad, the drunk, and attempting to get Violet clean.

Through three long-yet-zip-pily paced scenes, Letts answers many questions — Where's Dad? Will older sister Barbara (Shannon Cochran) reunite with her estranged husband? Why is youngest sis Karen's fiancé such a perv? — but he also raises many more. The play suggests that, contrary to what Tolstoy says, unhappy families are all alike, at least in their inability to stop tearing each other apart.

JENNIFER BARGER (EXPRESS)

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BROADWAY CAST PHOTO BY NIGEL PARRY

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Yvonne Borree and Nils Martin in Stravinsky Violin Concerto. Photo © Paul Kolink.

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FORCE FIELD PR

Ben Daniels, right, began A Sunny Day in Glasgow as a solo music project, but it expanded into a band and began to make a splash with its ambient, atmospheric songs.

Dream a Little Dream

To make its reverby pop, A Sunny Day in Glasgow endured a winter of lineup woes

Music

Ben Daniels created A Sunny Day in Glasgow; he can surely take it away. And during a dark time for the band, he almost did.

A Sunny Day in Glasgow's debut, "Scribble Mural Comic Journal," was based on Daniels' twin sisters' haunting, reverb-drenched vocals and his dense, sample-heavy arrangements.

After they left the group, Daniels and drummer Josh Meakim were working with a singer who wasn't fitting their vision, so she

split, too, leaving the band without its signature sound — a lead female voice. At the time, the pair were in the midst of working on the group's second full-length, "Ashes Grammar." To fill the vacated role, Meakim suggested he'd do the singing.

"After that, I was like, 'We can't do that — it's not the band at that point,'" Daniels said.

"I was definitely very close to scrapping it, but it was weird," he said. "I really like the songs, and they kind of keep you in it. Even though they take forever to get done, you listen to it and you're like, 'Oh, I've got to finish this.'"

A little perseverance and a random e-mail from Ryan Newmayer, a longtime fan and neighbor in the band's West Philadelphia home

base, led to them meeting Annie Frederickson. She became the new vocalist and the group finished the record, with Daniels' sister Robin adding vocals sporadically.

But Daniels wasn't done juggling yet. When the group wanted to take these songs on the road, they needed someone to fill Robin's role. Daniels put out a public call and finally settled on Jen Goma. Drummer Meakim switched to guitar, synthesizers and vocals, so Daniels had to recruit again — his friend Adam Herndon on drums; the useful Newmayer on bass.

Whew!

So after three years and 13 different members, what once was Daniels recording songs alone in his bedroom is now a stable, six-piece touring band.

"I really want this to be it," he said of ending the band's ever-shifting lineup. "Everybody's on board. I've played in bands in the past [and] you get sick of it — dealing with people's egos. When I started this, it was just me and that was nice, but you get tired of that. It's nice to have a lot of people to collaborate with and work with and have fun with."

The sextet now have the task of taking ASDIG's compositions and re-creating them live — something Daniels himself said would take eight people to get exactly right.

You see, most of the songs on "Ashes Grammar" aren't quite songs at all — save for the brilliant "Close Chorus," which sounds like Panda Bear with female vocals. Instead, it's a 22-track collection

of transitional and fragmented ambient pieces.

"It's kind of just what comes out, it's not really some high kind of concept," Daniels said. "I guess when I'm going along, it's like verse, chorus, verse, and then when it gets done it's not really that [anymore]. It's kind of like you get out your ideas and then you react to them and then try to follow them."

At the core are the dreamy, choral-like vocals, making the group part a subgenre dubbed "dream pop."

"I would like the third [album] to sound like some other band entirely."

BEN DANIELS, A SUNNY DAY IN GLASGOW GUITARIST-SONGWRITER

"I'm a huge fan of reverb, and I like to throw that on everything — things get all smeary," Daniels said. "On 'Scribble,' I remember everybody was like, 'There's so many effects,' and there was only reverb and distortion on that record. A lot of times I didn't even put anything on the vocals, but when you get the whole it sounds like that. Josh and I talked about it and were saying no reverb — vocals out front on the next record — mix it up a bit."

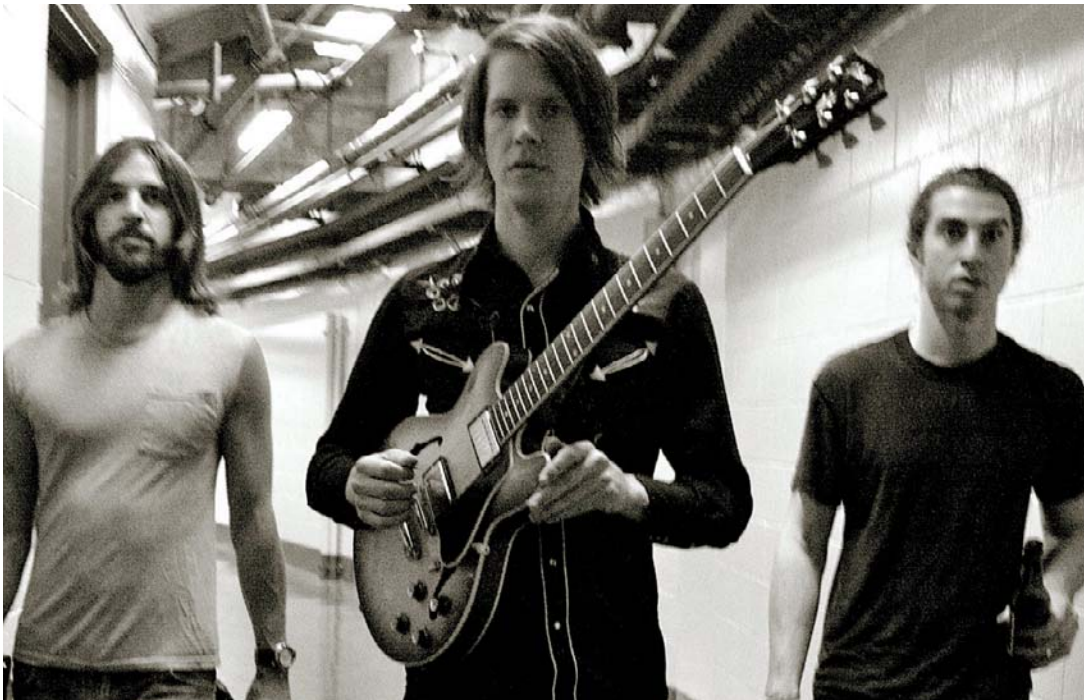
While the band has an EP for a remixed version of "Ashes Grammar's" "Nitetime Rainbows" due out in March, another EP's worth of unfinished songs Daniels said he may just give away for free, as well as a full slate of tour dates — he's already thinking about the group's next album.

"I feel like 'Ashes Grammar' sounds like the same band who did 'Scribble Mural Comic Journal,'" he said.

"I would like the third one to sound like some other band entirely. I don't know if that will happen, but it's an ideal to have there."

RUDI GREENBERG (EXPRESS)

● *The Red and the Black*, 212 H St. NE; with *Young Republic*, the *Torches*; Thu., 8:30 p.m., \$8; 202-399-3201.



The Whigs formed in college and were signed to a record label quickly; the band stepped off campus and onto the tour circuit.

Flipping for Whigs

Athens trio continue to drum up crowds and accolades with their frayed-edge pop

Music

For Julian Dorio, playing the drums has been a lifelong pursuit. Growing up in Atlanta in the 1980s, he started banging the skins at just 6 years old.

“My father is really into music, and he decided to start buying instruments instead of toys,” Dorio says. “He decided it would be a better use of time and money than buying more toys that get thrown out. So I have to credit him.”

Twenty years later, Dorio is the drummer of the Athens, Ga., trio the Whigs and was recently named best drummer by Esquire.

Asked whether his parents approve of his rock ‘n’ roll profession, he laughs: “I don’t know if they have a choice — it’s their fault for starting this whole thing. But we’re really lucky. All three of us have parents who are very

supportive. But if we were still at home and could barely get a local show and no one ever listened to us, I’m sure they would be honest and tell us that.”

The Whigs are no local act struggling to fill clubs and sell home-recorded CDs. Since forming in 2002, the trio — which includes singer-guitarist Parker Gispert and bassist Tim Deaux — have devel-

oped a reputation for tightly wound songs with power-pop intensity and the frayed edges of punk — part Cheap Trick, part Stooges.

The Whigs formed while the members were all in college, and recorded and released their debut, “Give ‘Em All a Big Fat Lip,” between classes. On the day Gispert took his final exam, the band signed to Dave Matthews’

ATO Records. The next day, it launched an ambitious five-month tour. “Since school, we’ve been touring and writing and making records nonstop,” says Dorio.

In March, they will unleash their third album, “In the Dark,” and judging by the tracks the band has released through its Web site, as musicians, they have grown more confident in the studio.

“We’ve evolved a bit in the two years since the last one,” says Dorio. “We’ve experienced a lot of things and seen so many bands, so we’ve grown up a bit. But it’s still a rock ‘n’ roll record.”

STEPHEN M. DEUSNER

● *Black Cat, 1811 14th St. NW; with the Features, Mean Creek, Thu., 8 p.m., \$13; 202-667-4490. (U St.-Cardozo)*

“All three of us have parents who are very supportive. But if ... no one ever listened to us, I’m sure they would be honest.”

— JULIAN DORIO, DRUMMER FOR THE ATHENS, GA., PUNK-POP BAND THE WHIGS

Homemade Art

Holiday cards to and from artists brighten the season

Museums

If you haven’t mailed holiday cards yet, a show by the Archives of American Art will inspire you. “Season’s Greetings: Holiday Cards From the Archives of American Art” at the Reynolds Center features handmade cards that artists sent to each other, their dealers and friends.

The center’s Fleischman Gallery now features blue walls painted with large snowflakes, and on display are cards from artists like Alexander Calder, Dan Flavin and William T. Wiley.

“Holiday cards crop up everywhere in our collections,” Archives registrar Susan Cary said. “For over a year and with the instrumental help of our volunteers, we culled through the collections searching for handmade holiday cards. We found them nestled between letters and amid artwork and ephemeral material.”

Curatorial archives specialist Mary Savig said the diversity and depth of cards was exciting.



A 1962 holiday card to Prentiss Taylor.

“The creators of cards span over several decades and across numerous styles and movements,” she said. “For the exhibition, we were able to place cards by craft artists and cartoonists alongside traditional landscape painters and contemporary artists.”

To make your own cards, head to the center on Saturday at 1 p.m., when local artist Ed Bisese will be leading a card-making workshop.

AMY CAVANAUGH

● Reynolds Center, 8th and F streets NW, through Jan. 10; 202-633-1000, aaa.si.edu. (Gallery Place-Chinatown)

Twinkle, Twinkle



THAT INEFFABLE GLOW No wonder Minneapolis is all in a tizzy over the Twilight Hours. With members of Semisonic, Trip Shakespeare and the New Standards, this is the sparkling-pop band to keep an eye. Do just that at Iota on Saturday.

Musical Memoirs of N.Y.

Singer-songwriter Chip Taylor looks back on growing up in 'Yonkers, NY'

Music

Chip Taylor grew up in Yonkers, New York, listening to early rock 'n' roll on the radio and sparring with his brothers. More than 50 years later, the famed singer-songwriter, who is best known for writing "Wild Thing" and "Angel of the Morning," has written a musical autobiography on "Yonkers, NY," which recounts stories about his father, a golf pro who convinced his sons he was a G-man, and his brothers, actor Jon Voight and volcanologist Barry Voight.

Where did you get the idea to do an autobiographical CD?

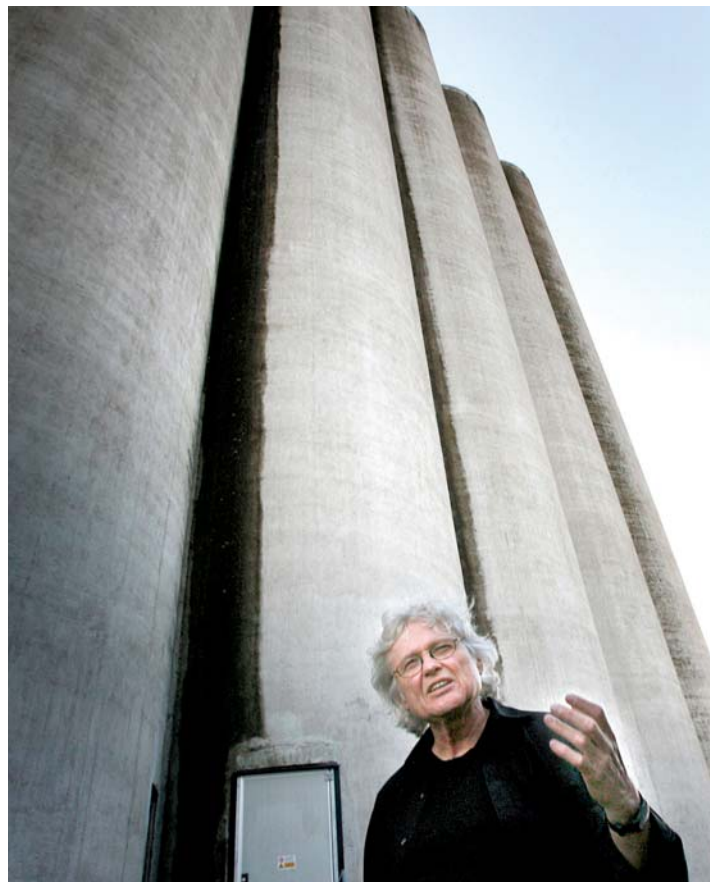
I wasn't trying to do a retrospective work. When I wake up in the morning, I always have my guitar next to me, and I would just pick it up and write. I think the

first song that came was "Charcoal Sky," and once I found myself there, that's where I stayed for a couple of days.

Did you write from memory?

These are all beautiful memories for me, so I didn't need to check with anybody else. "Barry Go On" has always been a funny story, when Barry got me to run away from home with him when I was 6. I have vivid memories of that day. And "Charcoal Sky" is about being at the train station with Dad on his day off. I have a very vivid memory of that, but my brothers don't remember it all. He used to talk to the conductors, and I remember the train would be pulling out and the conductor would have to run about 50 yards to catch the caboose. It's almost a slow-motion memory for me.

With all its gamblers and mob guys, Yonkers seems to be a character as real as your father or your brothers. There's a dark side to it, but I liked the dark side, almost like Damon



Chip Taylor culled from his childhood and his family for the songs on his new album.

Runyon stuff. When you're around it, you don't think these guys are bad folks. There were a lot of nice people, like the mafia guy singing opera in my backyard on "Without Horses." He was a nice guy, whatever else he did.

"There's a dark side to [Yonkers], but I liked the dark side, almost like Damon Runyon stuff."

Do you get back to Yonkers very often? Has it changed?

I go there often. Yonkers made it Chip Taylor Day when my album was released, and it was wonderful going back there and talking to the mayor and all those folks. It has changed, and they've tried to upscale it a bit, but the heart of Yonkers is Yonkers, you know. I think it still has the same heart, no matter how you change the façade.

STEPHEN M. DEUSNER

● *Birchmere, 3701 Mt. Vernon Ave., Alexandria; with Jon Voight, Kendel Carson; Sun., 7:30 p.m.; \$35; 703-549-7500, birchmere.com.*

Even Fake Love Hurts

'Paper Heart' looks for romance in real and fictional places

DVD

It's a risky choice, combining a documentary with fiction, but that's what Charlyne Yi does in "Paper Heart," a screen-blip indie that's just been released on DVD.

Yi co-wrote the story with director Nicholas Jasenovec as a bold mash-up. The film begins as Yi's documentary-style quest to find out whether "true love" exists. It's a self-consciously quirky premise, but the real-life subjects she interviews are endearing. From old



Charlyne Yi explores the nature of love, both real and fictional, in "Paper Heart."

married couples to teenage newlyweds, everyone gives Yi a heartfelt take on the age-old question. At various points, director Jasenovec

splices in handmade animations of the stories, adding a crafty visual dimension to a film that borders on precious.

Over the course of the film, Yi seeks out advice from bikers and biologists, then delves into a scripted on-camera relationship with Michael Cera. It's an unusual move — the action in front of the camera is real, but the behind-the-scenes drama is not.

The relationship adds a potentially helpful narrative arc to the journey, but the synthetic nature of Yi and Cera's romance — which might have been worthy of its own lighthearted piece of filmic fiction — grates against the affecting realism of the interviewees. When

placed next to the testimonies of a lovelorn divorcee, a grief-stricken gay man and other genuine romantics, it feels somehow deceitful.

But perhaps that's the point. "Paper Heart's" hybrid format highlights the dissonance between a carefully crafted cinematic romance and the trials and triumphs of love, but it's mildly uncomfortable to watch nonetheless. Trying to process it all evokes a complex emotional response.

If you already find post-Wes Anderson indie kitsch cloying, "Paper Heart" won't likely win you over. But for the less cynical among us, the segments that explore in good faith the mysteries of the human heart are charming, even if Yi's tentative romance with equally gawky geek-chic star Cera is vaguely disconcerting.

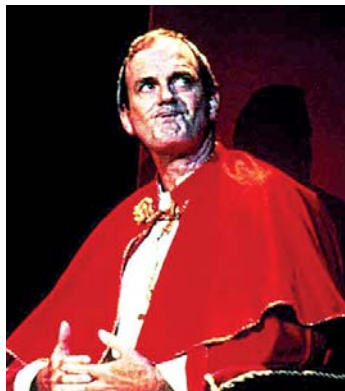
RYAN LITTLE

The Soul of Folk



TIMELY: Sure, he sings a little like Bob Dylan, is as funny and political as Frank Turner, but singer-songwriter Dan Bern is his own man. Now is the time to revisit his song "Tiger Woods"; hear it at Jammin' Java on Sunday.

indies & arties



John Cleese co-created and appeared in "The Secret Policeman's Ball."

Eccentric Humor

The singularly British nuttiness that was "The Secret Policeman's Ball" was brought about by Monty Python's John Cleese and featured a parade of high wit, style and absurdity. The 1976 film directed by Roger Graef captured a live performance (and rehearsals and interstitial silliness) staged for an Amnesty International benefit and included sketches from Dame Edna, Peter Cook, Eleanor Bron and the Pythons. As part of the Secret Policeman's Film Festival, a six-day "Ball"-fest, AFI Silver presents "Pleasure at Her Majesty's." The movie's producer and co-creator, Martin Lewis, and culture writer Richard Harrington hold a between-screenings chat and Q&A. "The Secret Policeman's Ball" screens with "The Mermaid Frolics," a television special of the 1997 benefit also directed by Graef. ▶ *AFI Silver, 8633 Colesville Road, Silver Spring; Fri., 7 p.m.; festival runs through Dec. 15; 301-495-6700, afi.com/silver. (Silver Spring)*

Word From on High

Andean and Andean-themed films are the focus of the metro area's first festival devoted to movies — from documentaries to serious dramas to horror flicks — about Peru's altiplano region. The festival runs through Saturday and is part of Arlington County's multi-ethnic Planet Arlington program. ▶ *Rosslyn Spectrum Theatre, 1611 N. Kent St., Arlington; 7:30 p.m., through Sat., \$10 per film; 800-551-7328, arlingtonarts.org. (Rosslyn)*

This P.I.'s Finger-Gun for Hire

A sitcom about a CPA who becomes a detective tests funny on the Richter scale

DVD

Poor Andy Richter. After leaving "Late Night With Conan O'Brien," he launched the critically praised, publically ignored sitcom "Andy Richter Controls the Universe," which was canceled after half a season.

It performed better than his next undertaking, "Andy Barker, P.I.," about a straight-laced CPA who becomes a private investigator. The show debuted on NBC in 2007; four episodes later, it was canceled.

It's not Richter's fault. First of all, the show is far too quirky for a big network; it would have fared better on cable, alongside similarly unlikely detective shows like



Andy Richter uses his boyishness to fine effect as an unlikely private detective.

"Monk" and "Psych."

Plus, Richter is a compellingly amiable presence on the small screen, especially when most actors with his build — not fat, but boyishly cuddly — are sidelined to comic relief. So the fact that he can land two starring roles, regardless of the shows' shared fate, is impressive in its own right.

"Controls the Universe" debuted

on DVD earlier this year, and now "Andy Barker, P.I." collects all six episodes of Richter's second sitcom, although spreading them out across two discs seems unnecessary.

It's actually a clever premise: When Barker opens up his own CPA office in an anonymous strip mall in San Diego, a case of mistaken identity lures him to investigate the case of a missing pol-

itician. The joke is that the very traits that make Barker so boring — the accountant's attention to details, the orderliness, his unfailing good humor — make him a dogged P.I.

At times, that doughy affability threatens to become a punchline, but Richter draws it out just enough to be funny without being distracting. He's surrounded by a cast of sidemen who play off his aw-shucks line readings nicely, including Tony Hale ("Arrested Development") as a video clerk and the late Harve Presnell ("Fargo") as an aging private eye who clings to the outdated lingo of the profession's heyday.

Unfortunately, Richter is barely a presence on this DVD. Only one of the extras features him, and he's on none of the commentary tracks. It's a shame, considering his brand of subversively harmless humor is the reason we're still watching him.

STEPHEN M. DEUSNER

Take 10

THE WASHINGTON POST'S FILM CRITICS TACKLE THIS WEEK'S BOX-OFFICE TOP 10



1 The Blind Side

Grounded in the direct, disarming truth of the characters' experience, the movie has a straightforward lack of cheap sentiment.

ANN HORNADAY

2 The Twilight Saga: New Moon

Despite melodrama, there's enough wolf whistle in this sexy, scary romp to please anyone. MICHAEL O'SULLIVAN

3 Brothers

"Brothers" explores how one man — and all of us — have injured ourselves fighting wars. MICHAEL O'SULLIVAN

4 Disney's A Christmas Carol

The holiday classic gets a manic makeover that is antic, scary, sweet and slightly soulless. MICHAEL O'SULLIVAN

5 Old Dogs

John Travolta and Robin Williams phone it in for this alleged comedy. JOHN ANDERSON

6 2012 (tie)

Director Roland Emmerich fleshes

out pseudo-history with pseudo-science and throws hundreds of millions of dollars at it. DAN KOIS

7 Armored (tie)

A motley crew of stereotypes plan to rob their own transport trucks in this actioner not screened for review.

8 Ninja Assassin

Ten minutes after you leave the movie, all the battles will have blended into a ceaseless muddle of blood, screams and swords. DAN KOIS

9 Planet 51

This animated movie about a human astronaut stuck on a planet of little green men is cute, but it's no great beauty. MICHAEL O'SULLIVAN

10 Everybody's Fine

"Everybody's Fine" is about recognizable human beings engaged in real, if flawed, relationships. ANN HORNADAY

the
scene

→ Sound

9:30 Club: Gwar, Job for a Cowboy, the Red Chord, 7 p.m., \$20.

Birchmere: Rickie Lee Jones, 7:30 p.m., \$39.50.

Black Cat: The Whigs, the Features, Mean Creek, 9 p.m., \$13.

Blues Alley: Gil Scott Heron, 8 & 10 p.m., \$35.

DC9: Tickley Feather, Toro y Moi, Future Islands, 9 p.m., \$8.

Iota: Andy Zipf, Down Dexter, Damion Suomi, Lauris Vidal, 8 p.m., \$10.

Jammin' Java: Issa, Leslie Alexander, 8 p.m., \$20.

Rock and Roll Hotel: The Very Small, the Jones, the Escape Artist, 8:30 p.m., \$10.

State Theatre: "Santa Jam," 7 p.m., \$11 minimum donation.

The Red and the Black: The Torches, A Sunny Day in Glasgow, Young Republic, 9 p.m., \$8.

Twins Jazz: Doug Carn and the Black Jazz Legacy Band, 8 & 10 p.m., \$15.

FRIDAY

9:30 Club: Railroad Earth, the Infamous Stringdusters, 8 p.m., \$25.

Birchmere: Catie Curtis & Susan Werner, 7:30 p.m., \$27.50.

Black Cat: Once Okay Twice, Loose Lips, Power Pirate, 9 p.m., \$10.

Bohemian Caverns: Tim Warfield & Stefon Harris, 8:30 & 10:30 p.m., \$20.

Comet Ping Pong: Arm Chairs, Exit Glov, 10:30 p.m., \$10.

DC9: Liberation Dance Party, 9 p.m., \$7.

HR-57: Antonio Parker Quartet, 9 p.m., \$12.

Iota: Twilight Hours, Freelance Whales, 9 p.m., \$12.

Jammin' Java: Aztec Two-Step, 7 p.m., \$10; Pat McGee, Colby James, 9:30 p.m., sold out.

Jaxx: Z02, 7:30 p.m., \$12.

Kennedy Center, Terrace Theater: NPR's A Jazz Piano Christmas, 7:30 & 9:30 p.m., \$42.

Rock and Roll Hotel: Last Tide, Bellflur, the Jet Age, International Graduate University, 8:30 p.m., \$10.

5 A Serious Talk

National Geographic Live ushers out its fall season with an exciting event. The discussion Distant Relatives brings together hip-hop star Nas, reggae star and scion Damian Marley, and such rap and reggae pioneers as KRS-One, King Jammy and Kool Herc to talk about the connections between the genres. MTV's VJ Sway moderates this talk, which is part of a Distant Relatives musical collaboration between Marley and Nas. Listen to them this year; look for an album, a documentary and performances in 2010.

→ **National Geographic, 16th & M streets NW, Sat., 7 p.m., \$25; 202-857-7700, national-geographic.com/events. (McPherson Square)**

top stops
WEEKEND

2 Twisted Tinsel

Those scamps at Landless Theatre are up to their tricks again. To celebrate the season, the company presents "Carrie Potter" (10 p.m.), a Cap Fringe punk musical that mashes up J.K. Rowling and Stephen King, and "A Christmas Twist" (7:30 p.m.). Chicago's Illegitimate Players originally produced the story of wee Oliver Twist adrift at the holidays.

→ **D.C. Arts Center, 2438 18th St. NW; shows open Fri. and run through Jan. 2, "Carrie Potter" \$15; "A Christmas Twist" \$25; landlesstheatrecompany.org.**



1 In Her Prime

Free-spirited boho-jazz artist Rickie Lee Jones brings her infectious joy, lyrical intelligence and unique voice — so cracked and cute you want to take it home and give it soup — to the Birchmere on Thursday. The Los Angeles-based singer-songwriter has folded more pop and blues into the mix, so expect an eclectic evening of music, including cuts from her new album, "Balm in Gilead."

→ **Birchmere, 3701 Mt. Vernon Ave., Alexandria; Thu., 7:30 p.m., \$39.50; 703-549-7500, birchmere.com.**

3 Raised in Song

Hallelujah! The National Philharmonic Chorale joins the Natty Phil Orchestra for a performance of Handel's deathless praise cycle, "Messiah." Soloists Danielle Talamantest, Victoria Livengood, Robert Baker and Leon Williams join the all-volunteer chorale for a night of soaring beauty, not to mention holiday cheer.

→ **Strathmore, 5301 Tuckerman Lane, Bethesda; Sat., 8 p.m. & Sun., 3 p.m., \$29-\$79; 301-581-5100, nationalphilharmonic.org, strathmore.org. (Grosvenor-Strathmore)**

What Is That Stuff?

Grotesque, monstrous, loud and very, very funny — Gwar is the three Stooges of novelty metal. Expect funny costumes, bodily fluids, gross-out stage antics and some

pounding metal to entertain the living daylights out of a bunch of enthusiastic male fans; expect the occasional eye-rolling girlfriend avoiding the front lip of the stage.

→ **9:30 Club, 815 V St. NW; with Job for a Cowboy, the Red Chord, Thu., 7 p.m., \$20; 800-955-5566, 930.com. (U St.-Cardozo)**



4

Weekend Pass | entertainment

the scene

Continued from E9

The Red and the Black: The Killer Balloons, the Royal We, Black Dog Prowl, 9:30 p.m., \$8.
Twins Jazz: Go Trio, \$15.
Velvet Lounge: Bellman Barker, the Swimmers, 9 p.m., \$8.

SATURDAY

9:30 Club: The Pietasters, Ruder Than You, the Breakups, the Moderators, 8 p.m., \$17.

Birchmere: Ralph Stanley & The Clinch Mt. Boys, 7:30 p.m., \$35.

Black Cat: Eighties Mayhem with DJs Steve EP, Krasty McNasty, 9 p.m., \$10; Versus, Soft Power, 8 p.m., \$10.

Bohemian Caverns: Tim Warfield & Stefon Harris, 8:30 & 10:30 p.m., \$20.

DC9: Lights, We Were Pirates, Lightfoot, 6 p.m., \$10.

Jammin' Java: The Hint, 6 p.m., \$12; Bob, Almost Kings, OurAfter, Screaming at the Silence, Uncrowned, 9 p.m., \$13.

Jaxx: DRI, Krass Judgement, Ol' Scratch,

Inking a Song



RICH SULLIVAN

FULL THROAT: World-weary lyrics mix with a hedonistic love for life in Damion Suomi's foot-stompingly good folk ballads, propelled by his rich and violent voice. The Florida singer spins stories of suicide, love and God at lota on Thursday night.

Croatoan, the Pogo, Just Livid, 8 p.m., \$18.

The Red and the Black: Koffin Kats, American Space Cadets, Atomic Mosquitos, 9:30 p.m., \$10.

Rock and Roll Hotel: The Phenomenal Handclap Band, Javelin, Bop Beetle, 9:30 p.m., \$12.

Twins Jazz: Go Trio, 9 & 11 p.m., \$15.

Velvet Lounge: The Last Velodrome, Child Ballads, Instamatic, 3D Slang, 10 p.m., \$8.

SUNDAY

9:30 Club: Switchfoot, 7 p.m., \$20.

Birchmere: Chip Taylor, Kendel Carson, Jon Voight, 7:30 p.m., \$35.

Bohemian Caverns: Elevation, 6 & 8 p.m., \$15.

DC9: The Nine, 9 p.m., \$10.

Galaxy Hut: Garland of Hours, the Formers, 9 p.m., \$5.

Jammin' Java: Dan Bern, Tom McBride, 7 p.m., \$18.

Jaxx: Paperhaus, Sometimes They Come Back, DefSyde and more, 4 p.m., \$10.

Velvet Lounge: John Powers and Friends, the Alphabet, Order, Monument, 9 p.m., \$8.

Sight

Aaron Gallery: "The 20th Annual Small & Miniatures Show," artists limit the size of their constructions, but not the scope of their artistic vision, through Dec. 31. 1717 Connecticut Ave., NW; 202-234-3311, aarongallerydc.com.

Addison/Ripley Fine Art: "Wolf Kahn," the German-born painter presents gentle pastels and oil works, through Jan. 23. 1670 Wisconsin Ave. NW; 202-238-5180, addisonripleyfineart.com.

Alexandria Black History Museum: "Spirits in a Bottle," a lighthearted bottle-filled exhibit pays tribute to the African tradition, through Jan. Permanent and changing exhibitions highlighting Alexandria's rich history. 902 Wythe St., Alexandria; 703-838-4356, oha.alexandriava.gov/bhrc.

Anacostia Community Museum: "Separate but Unequaled," exhibit highlighting the achievements and success of the early segregated baseball leagues. 1901 Fort Place SE; 202-633-1000, anacostia.si.edu.

THE RAGING JEWS OF COMEDY



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Dan Naturman
Returning to Sixth & I after his first hilarious appearance supporting Orny Adams and Comedy For a Cause this past summer. He has appeared on *Comedy Central Presents...*, *Dan Naturman, The Late Show with David Letterman*, *Late Night with Conan O'Brien*.



Tommy Savitt
Winner of Seattle Comedy Festival (2008), Winner of Boston Comedy Festival (2007), *The Bob and Tom Show*.



Gregg Rogell
Comedy Central Presents...Gregg Rogell, The Tonight Show with Jay Leno, Late Night with Conan O'Brien.



Sunda Croonquist
Comedy Central's Premium Blend, VH1 – I Love Toys, Showtime with Gilbert Gottfried, VH1 So—Jewtastic.



Joel Marks
Skipper Chuck Playhouse—Age 6, Schwartz Chanukah Party. Our MC for the evening!

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Tickets can be purchased at www.sixthandi.org or call 202-408-3100 ragingjewsofcomedy.com



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Ann Loeb Bronfman Gallery: "Blue Like Me: the Work of Siona Benjamin," one Jewish artist's upbringing in Muslim-heavy India is expressed through painting, through Jan. 29. 1529 16th St. NW; 202-518-9400, washingtondcjcc.org.

Arlington Arts Center: "Image/Project," exhibition of video and paintings juried by Taryn Simon, through Jan. 16. 3550 Wilson Blvd., Arlington; 703-248-6800, arlingtonartscenter.org.

Arthur M. Sackler Gallery: "Falnama: the Book of Omens," vividly illustrated manuscripts on the end of days from the Islamic world, through Jan. 24. "Perspectives: Anish Kapoor," curved and elongated metallic sculptures from the Indian sculptor, through Jan. 3. 1050 Independence Ave. SW; 202-633-1000, asia.si.edu.

The Art League Gallery: "One Less Traveled," landscape photographs from Pamela Viola explore a haunting world just off the beaten path, through Dec. 7. 105 N. Union St., Alexandria; 703-683-1780, theartleague.org.

Art Museum of the Americas:

"Bilateral Engagement," a survey of Washington Sculptor Guild work in honor of its 25th anniversary, through Jan. 15. 201 18th St. NW; 202-458-6016, museum.oas.org.

Athenaeum: "New Mythology," animal-inspired paintings from Tracey Clarke create a fantasy-heavy new world, through Jan. 3. 201 Prince St., Alexandria; 703-548-0035, nvfaa.org.

Civilian Art Projects: "Woods," photography from Terri Weifenbach of local leaved nature. "A Little Give and Take," mixed-media constructions from Carole Wagner Greenwood, both through Dec. 19. 1019 7th St. NW; 202-607-3804, civili-

Smooth Flowing



MIGUEL "CHAPI" OVOLA

GROWN RIGHT: The secret's out.; Masters of words and beats run deep here in the DMV. Kingpen Slim, K-Beta and Uptown XO are just a few of the young hip-hop artists coming to Velocity 5 as part of the Capitol City Music Tour on Friday.

anartprojects.com.

Conner Contemporary Art: "Cosmopolitan Chicken Art," Belgian conceptual artist Koen Vanmechelen meditates on cultural identity through chicken breeding, through Dec. 31. 1358 Florida Ave. NE; 202-588-8750, connercontemporary.com.

LAST CHANCE Corcoran Gallery of Art: "Nature as Nation," 19th-century American landscape paintings. "Edward Burtynsky: Oil," 56 mammoth color landscapes from the Canadian photographer explore the effects and impact of the quest for oil, through Sun. "Sargent and the Sea," rare seascape and

coastal paintings from John Singer Sargent, through Jan. 3. 500 17th St. NW; 202-639-1700, corcoran.org.

Cross Mackenzie Gallery: "Walter McConnell," photographs imprinted on ceramic and porcelain pieces, through Jan. 10. 1054 31st St. NW; 202-333-7970, crossmackenzie.com.

Curator's Office: "An Exact Place," fabrics and Hanji paper play a role in the abstract painting from Jiha Moon, through Dec. 17. 1515 14th St. NW; 202-387-1008, curatorsoffice.com.

David C. Driskell Center: "An American Consciousness: Robin Holder's Mid-

Continued on E12

venues

→ **9:30 CLUB:** 815 V ST. NW; 202-265-0930, 930.COM.

→ **BIRCHMERE:** 3701 MT. VERNON AVE., ALEXANDRIA; 703-549-7500, BIRCHMERE.COM.

→ **BLACK CAT:** 1811 14TH ST. NW; 202-667-7960, BLACKCATDC.COM.

→ **BLUES ALLEY:** 1073 WISCONSIN AVE. NW; 202-337-4141, BLUESALLEY.COM.

→ **BOHEMIAN CAVERNS:** 2001 11TH ST. NW; 202-299-0800, BOHEMIANCAVERNS.COM.

→ **COMET PING PONG:** 5037 CONNECTI-

CUT AVE. NW; 202-364-0404, COMETPINGPONG.COM.

→ **DC NINE:** 1940 9TH ST. NW; 202-483-5000, DCNINE.COM.

→ **HR-57:** 1610 14TH ST. NW; 202-667-3700, HR57.ORG.

→ **IOTA:** 2832 WILSON BLVD., ARLINGTON; 703-522-8340, IOTACLUBANDCAFE.COM.

→ **JAMMIN' JAVA:** 227 MAPLE AVE. E., VIENNA, VA.; 703-255-1566, JAMMINJAVA.COM.

→ **JAXX:** 6355 ROLLING ROAD, SPRINGFIELD, VA.; 703-569-5940, JAXXROXX.COM.

→ **KENNEDY CENTER:** 2700 F ST. NW; 800-444-1324, KENNEDY-CENTER.ORG.

→ **THE RED AND THE BLACK:** 1212 H ST.

NE; 202-399-3201, REDANDBLACKBAR.COM.

→ **ROCK AND ROLL HOTEL:** 1353 H ST. NE; 202-388-7625, ROCKANDROLLHOTELDC.COM.

→ **STATE THEATRE:** 220 N. WASHINGTON, FALLS CHURCH; 703-237-0300, THESTATETHEATRE.COM.

→ **TWINS JAZZ:** 344 U ST. NW; 202-234-0072, TWINSJAZZ.COM.

→ **VELVET LOUNGE:** 915 U ST. NW; 202-462-3213, VELVETLOUNGEDC.COM.

→ **VELOCITY 5:** 8111 LEE HWY., FALLS CHURCH, VA; 703-207-9464.

→ **WARNER THEATRE:** 513 13TH ST. NW; 800-551-7328, WARNERTHEATRE.COM.

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folger.edu.

The Foundry Gallery: "Holiday Bar-
gain Bash," local artists exhibit their
painted talent in an affordable and col-
orful holiday showcase, through Dec. 19.
1314 18th St. NW; 202-463-0203, found-
rygallery.org.

Fraser Gallery: "Winter Group Exhibit,"

new paintings from David FeBland, Mike
Fitts, Tim O'Kane and others, through
Jan. 9. 7700 Wisconsin Ave., Bethesda;
301-718-9651, thefrasergallery.com.

Freer Gallery of Art: "Texture of Night:
James McNeill Whistler," through June
2010. Jefferson Drive & 12th Street SW;
202-633-1000, asia.si.edu.

**LAST CHANCE The Gallery at Flash-
point:** "Pacguy," video game-referencing

interactive wackiness from Kenny George,
through Sat. 916 G St. NW; 202-315-1305,
flashpointdc.org.

Gallery Neptune: "Neptune Artist Mar-
ketplace," affordable small-scale art-
work, through Dec. 20. 5001 Wilson
Lane, Bethesda; 301-718-0809, gal-
leryneptune.com.

Gaylor National Harbor: "Christmas
on the Potomac," 1.5 million pounds of ice

turned into a holiday wonderland, through
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National Harbor; 877-352-3629, christma-
sonthepotomac.com.

Goethe-Institut: "Iconoclash" politi-
cally charged icons from the tumultu-
ous period of transition in post-Berlin
Wall Germany, through Jan. 8. 812
7th St. NW; 202-289-1200, goethe.de/

Continued on E18

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Fresh Pick of the Day



ALLISONSHELLY/TWP

Ballet fans meet "Nutcracker" luminaries at the Washington Ballet tea.

Twinkle Toes and Tasty Treats at the Willard

Ballet-crazy tinies can indulge in all the glitter and magic of the season at Sunday's Nutcracker Tea Party, a tradition created by Washington Ballet artistic director Septime Webre. The annual event — which features food, favors and photo ops with such Washington Ballet "Nutcracker" nobility as the Snow Queen and Sugar Plum Fairy — takes place at the Willard Hotel (1401 Pennsylvania Ave. NW; 202-362-3606 ext. 123). Prices begin at \$200 and include a ticket to the Sunday matinee performance that immediately precedes the tea.

Oh, the Closet Inside Is Frightening ...

Reindeer with light-up noses; misshapen Santas, winter blunderlands — ugly holiday sweaters are as much a tradition as uneaten fruitcake and out-of-hand office parties. But 'tis the season to wear these monstrosities with pride. Or at least irony. Grab your own knitted nightmare — thanks, Aunt Edna! — and hit the Miracle on 3rd & 4th Streets Ugly Holiday Sweater Bar Tour on Saturday. It kicks off at 1 p.m. at the Hawk & Dove (Pennsylvania Avenue between 3rd & 4th streets) and stumbles around horrifying everyone until 9 p.m. The entrance fee is \$5 with a new toy for Toys for Tots; \$10 without, you selfish Scrooge.

Transport Kellari Taverna holds the American and goes heavy on the Greek

More Olives, Please

The recently opened Kellari Taverna, located in the space previously occupied by Restaurant K, is like stepping out of D.C. and into a bustling European restaurant. The original Kellari is in New York, and Greek food lovers have a lot to admire here.

To get things started, share a couple mezedes. Dip the Kellari chips of eggplant and zucchini into tzatziki sauce, or try a classic spanakopita, a spinach and feta pie.

For main dishes, there's a focus on seafood, and you can select your fish right out of an iced display — fish range from mid-Atlantic black sea bass to turbot from Greece.

As chef Gregory Zapantis says, getting fish so fresh isn't always easy.

"I have to get up at 3 o'clock in the morning to talk with some of the fishermen and purveyors in Greece and Spain and Senegal, since if you want to get the best fish, you have to be on a personal level with them," he says. "For your friends, you go the extra mile; that's how life is."

You order fish by the pound, and your waiter can help you choose the right size if you're sharing or eating it yourself.

"In Greece, seafood tavernas don't have a printed menu, and they just tell you what's available," Zapantis says. "We can't do that in the U.S., but you can pick and choose the seafood you want us to cook for you."

Zapantis says that some fish come from the Mediterranean, others from the Northeast, and that the best lobster is from Nova Scotia.

"A restaurant is not about the



ALL PHOTOS BY MENTIS STUDIO

The restaurant is large enough to seat 220 and has a private dining area that holds 50, but downtown D.C.'s Kellari Taverna is still a quaint and cozy place to grab a Greek-inspired dish, which, in this case, means seafood, seafood and more seafood.

"I have to get up at 3 o'clock in the morning to talk with some of the fishermen ... in Greece, Spain and Senegal."

owners or the chef, but the product," Zapantis says. "When you give me a pristine piece of fish, how can I do it wrong? I can only do as good as the food I put on the plate."

Desserts are simple, and anything with Greek yogurt is going to be delicious, like the yogurt with

wild thyme honey and toasted walnuts. The baklava, made with honey and rosewater syrup, is a heavier option but just as good. There's also a lovely Greek mountain tea to finish the meal with.

The restaurant feels cozy yet is large enough to seat 220 and has a private dining room that can hold 50 people. There's a table right next to the kitchen where you can see the action, which Zapantis loves.

Kellari also has an extensive wine list (the restaurant's name means "cellar" in Greek), with many from Greece. If you're stopping by for a post-work drink, you can nosh on complimentary olives



at the bar or order from the bar menu, which includes crispy calamari and seafood sliders.

"A kitchen is full of life and emotions throughout the day; and even though it is so hard to work, it's a lot of fun as well," he says. "We laugh and we scream and we yell and we pick on somebody; so much is going on."

There's a lot going on at Kellari, and while the kitchen is bustling, the real show is on the plate.

AMY CAVANAUGH

● Kellari Taverna, 1700 K St. NW; 202-535-5274, kellaridc.com. (Farragut North)

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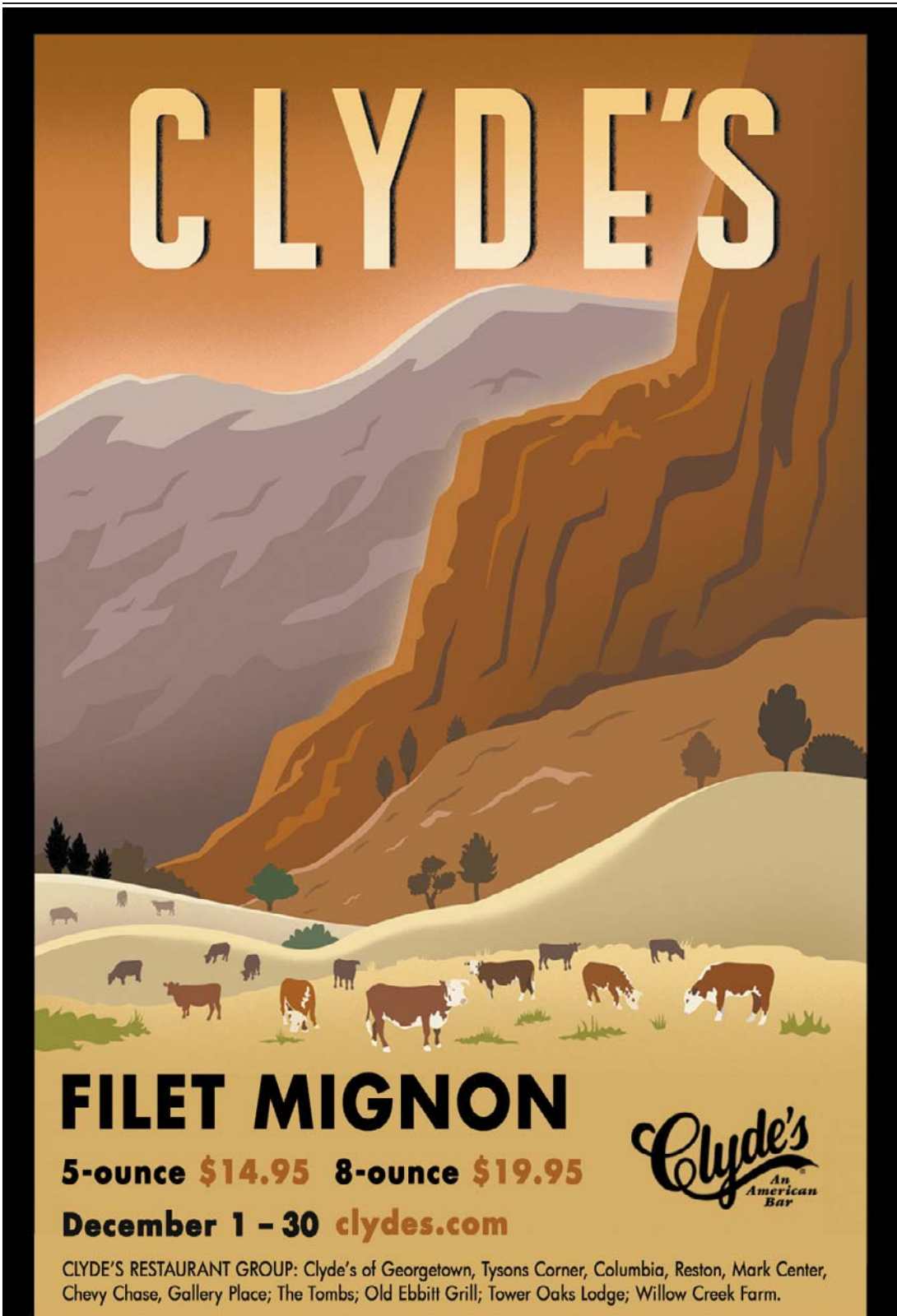
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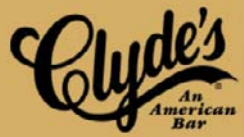


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CLYDE'S RESTAURANT GROUP: Clyde's of Georgetown, Tysons Corner, Columbia, Reston, Mark Center, Chevy Chase, Gallery Place; The Tombs; Old Ebbitt Grill; Tower Oaks Lodge; Willow Creek Farm.

Weekend Pass



The Tamworth Pork Belly at Againn expand horizons, not to mention belt widths.

One More Time

At Againn, gourmet British pub offerings invade local plates

Pubs, the Remix

Britain isn't exactly renowned for its food, but at Againn, standard pub fare gets a gourmet makeover. A venture by Whisk Group, Againn opened near Mt. Vernon Square in October and offers an inviting atmosphere to make diners feel at home.

Executive chef Wes Morton, who has worked with Michel Richard at Citronelle, was most recently at *17 in Houston. To find inspiration for Againn's menu, the Louisiana native traveled to London, where he ate game birds, pork and shellfish.

"There are a lot of ingredients in England that we just don't get here, so it was more about taking British sensibilities and transferring that over here," Morton said. "Everything was cooked well and was consistent and simple, but at the same time well done, and that's what we try to bring here."

Morton also traveled around Pennsylvania and Shenandoah Valley farms to source products.

"The menu is seasonal, and it's all about what the farms have," Morton said. "If we get a call that a farm has beautiful beets, we're

going to take them and change the menu."

You can find classic pub food like fish and chips with mushy peas and shepherd's pie, or branch out and try dishes like hanger steak with a sauce made of bone marrow or pork belly with crackling. There's also a pub menu that includes Scotch eggs and Guinness-soaked pretzels.

"If ... a farm has beautiful beets, we're going to take them and change the menu."

The décor is dark, with faux fox heads on the walls and a raw bar right inside the door. Also notable are the Scotch lockers, which you can rent and use to store up to three bottles of Scotch. Beverage director Elli Benchimol, previously with Stir Food Group's Zola and Potenza, has created an extensive wine list and offers cocktails such as a Pimm's cup.

Againn is a Gaelic word that means, "Are you going?" The right answer here is "Yes."

AMY CAVANAUGH

● **Againn, 1099 New York Ave. NW; 202-639-9830, againndc.com. (Metro Center)**

local movie times

◆ No Passes () Bargain Shows Times

Washington DC

Landmark Theatres

Landmark's E-Street Cinema	www.landmarktheatres.com
AN EDUCATION (PG-13) 2:10, 4:40, 7:10, 9:40 COCO BEFORE CHANEL (PG-13) 2:30, 7:30 SKIN (PG-13) 5:00 PIRATE RADIO (R) 1:05, 4:05, 7:05, 9:45 RED CLIFF (R) 1:45, 5:00, 8:15 35 SHOTS OF RUM (NR) 12:40, 3:00, 5:20, 7:40, 9:55 A SERIOUS MAN (R) 2:15, 4:45 BAD LIEUTENANT: PORT OF CALL NEW ORLEANS (R) 12:45, 3:45, 6:45, 9:25 THE MESSENGER (R) 12:50, 3:50, 6:50, 9:30	

American Film Institute

American Film Institute	www.afi.com/silver
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AN EDUCATION (PG-13) 1:05, 3:05, 5:05, 7:05, 9:10
A SERIOUS MAN (R) 4:30, 9:45
LA DANSE: THE PARIS OPERA BALLET (NR) 1:20, 6:45
TRIUMPH OF THE BALL (NR) 6:00 P.M.
THE SECRET POLICEMAN'S BALL (NR) 7:30 P.M.
THE SECRET POLICEMAN'S OTHER BALL (R)

The Avalon Theatre

The Avalon Theatre	www.theavalon.org
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THE BLIND SIDE (PG-13) 10:30, 1:30, 5:00
FANTASTIC MR. FOX (PG) 1:45, 7:45
COCO BEFORE CHANEL (PG-13) 10:30 A.M.

AMC Theaters

AMC Loews Uptown	www.amctheatres.com
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THE TWILIGHT SAGA: NEW MOON (PG-13) 1:30, 4:30, 7:30

AMC Theaters

AMC Mazza Gallerie	www.amctheatres.com
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GLENN BECK'S "THE CHRISTMAS SWEATER" (NR) 8:00 P.M.
EVERYBODY'S FINE (PG-13) 2:00, 4:30, 7:10, 9:45
OLD DOGS (PG) 2:30, 5:05, 7:30, 9:50
NINJA ASSASSIN (R) 1:30, 4:00
PLANET 51 (PG) 1:45, 4:10
THE TWILIGHT SAGA: NEW MOON (PG-13) 1:00, 4:00, 7:00, 10:00
THE BLIND SIDE (PG-13) 1:15, 4:15, 7:30, 10:20
2012 (PG-13) 1:10, 4:45, 8:15

AMC Theaters

AMC Loews Georgetown	www.amctheatres.com
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AMC Select
UP IN THE AIR (R) 11:00, 12:00, 1:40, 2:40, 4:20, 5:20, 7:00, 8:00, 9:40, 10:30
THE PRINCESS AND THE FROG (G) 12:01 A.M.
INVICTUS (PG-13) 12:01 A.M.
LARGER THAN LIFE IN 3D: DAVE MATTHEWS BAND (PG) 12:01 A.M.
IN DIGITAL 3-D
ARMORED (PG-13) 10:30, 12:50, 3:05, 5:25, 7:45, 10:05
BROTHERS (R) 11:20, 2:00, 4:40, 7:25, 10:10
EVERYBODY'S FINE (PG-13) 12:00, 2:20, 4:45, 7:10, 9:35
OLD DOGS (PG) 10:50, 1:10, 3:30, 5:50, 8:10, 10:35
FANTASTIC MR. FOX (PG) 10:20, 12:30, 2:50, 5:10, 7:30, 9:50
NINJA ASSASSIN (R) 12:05, 2:25, 4:50, 7:20, 9:55
THE TWILIGHT SAGA: NEW MOON (PG-13) 12:40, 3:45, 6:45, 10:00
12:40, 3:45, 6:45, 10:00
AMC Select
PRECIOUS: BASED ON THE NOVEL "PUSH" BY SAPPHIRE (R) 11:45, 2:25, 5:05, 7:50, 10:20
THE BLIND SIDE (PG-13) 10:15, 1:15, 4:15, 7:15, 10:15
2012 (PG-13) 11:50, 3:20, 6:50, 10:20
AMC Select
PIRATE RADIO (R) 2:30, 7:40
DISNEY'S A CHRISTMAS CAROL 3D (PG) 11:30 A.M.
IN DIGITAL 3-D
THE MEN WHO STARE AT GOATS (R) 12:10, 5:15, 10:25

Regal Cinemas

Regal Gallery Place Stadium	www.regmovies.com
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AVATAR (PG-13)
IT'S COMPLICATED (R)
ALVIN AND THE CHIPMUNKS: THE SQUEAKQUEL (PG)
EVERYBODY'S FINE (PG-13) 11:40, 2:15, 4:45, 7:15, 9:40
ARMORED (PG-13) 12:10, 2:30, 5:00, 7:30, 10:00
BROTHERS (R) 12:45, 3:45, 7:00, 9:50
NINJA ASSASSIN (R) 12:20, 3:00, 5:40, 8:20, 10:45
THE ROAD (R) 11:35, 2:20, 5:05, 8:00, 10:35
OLD DOGS (PG) 11:50, 2:10, 4:30, 7:05, 9:20
PLANET 51 (PG) 2:00, 9:10
THE BLIND SIDE (PG-13) 1:20, 4:20, 7:50, 10:40
THE TWILIGHT SAGA: NEW MOON (PG-13) 1:30, 4:30, 7:45, 10:40
PLANET 51 (PG) 11:45, 4:15, 6:45, 9:15, 11:45, 12:50, 3:20, 6:50, 10:10
FANTASTIC MR. FOX (PG) 12:25, 2:50, 5:15, 7:35, 10:10
2012 (PG-13) 12:00, 3:25, 6:50, 10:15
THE MEN WHO STARE AT GOATS (R) 4:00, 9:30
PRECIOUS: BASED ON THE NOVEL "PUSH" BY SAPPHIRE (R) 11:30, 2:40, 5:30, 8:10, 10:45
DISNEY'S A CHRISTMAS CAROL 3D (PG) 1:40, 4:10, 6:40, 9:15

Virginia

Old Town Theatre

Alexandria	www.oldtowntheatre.com
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Call theatre for show information

Arlington Cinema 'N' Drafthouse

Arlington	www.arlingtondrafthouse.com
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NO FILMS SHOWING TODAY (NR)

Regal Potomac Yards

Alexandria	www.regmovies.com
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AVATAR (PG-13)
IT'S COMPLICATED (R)
ALVIN AND THE CHIPMUNKS: THE SQUEAKQUEL (PG)
ARMORED (PG-13) 2:05, 4:25, 7:20, 9:45
EVERYBODY'S FINE (PG-13) 12:00, 2:35, 5:10, 7:40, 10:25
THE BLIND SIDE (PG-13) 12:40, 1:40, 3:45, 4:45, 6:50, 7:50, 9:55
TRANSLYMANIA (R) 12:30, 3:10, 5:40, 8:10, 10:40
BROTHERS (R) 1:30, 4:40, 7:35, 10:30
NINJA ASSASSIN (R) 12:50, 3:35, 4:35, 6:30, 9:15, 10:15
OLD DOGS (PG) 12:20, 1:45, 2:45, 4:15, 5:15, 7:45, 10:10
PLANET 51 (PG) 3:40, 8:35
THE TWILIGHT SAGA: NEW MOON (PG-13) 1:50, 4:55, 8:00, 7:00, 10:05
PLANET 51 (PG) 1:20, 6:10
FANTASTIC MR. FOX (PG) 1:25, 4:10, 6:40, 9:05
2012 (PG-13) 11:50, 3:25, 7:10
PRECIOUS: BASED ON THE NOVEL "PUSH" BY SAPPHIRE (R) 12:15, 2:00, 3:00, 5:45, 7:30, 8:30
DISNEY'S A CHRISTMAS CAROL 3D (PG) 1:15, 3:50, 6:20, 8:55

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AVATAR (PG-13)
IT'S COMPLICATED (R)
ALVIN AND THE CHIPMUNKS: THE SQUEAKQUEL (PG)
THE BLIND SIDE (PG-13) 12:30, 3:40, 6:50, 9:50
BROTHERS (R) 1:10, 4:10, 7:10, 10:10
ARMORED (PG-13) 11:50, 3:00, 5:30, 8:00, 10:30
EVERYBODY'S FINE (PG-13) 12:10, 2:40, 5:10, 7:45, 10:20
OLD DOGS (PG) 11:30, 2:00, 4:00, 4:30, 7:00, 9:25
NINJA ASSASSIN (R) 12:40, 3:10, 5:40, 8:10, 10:35
THE TWILIGHT SAGA: NEW MOON (PG-13) 12:50, 7:20, 12:20, 3:30, 6:40, 9:40
PLANET 51 (PG) 12:00, 2:30, 5:00, 7:30
FANTASTIC MR. FOX (PG) 1:20, 3:50, 6:20
2012 (PG-13) 1:00, 4:40, 8:20
PRECIOUS: BASED ON THE NOVEL "PUSH" BY SAPPHIRE (R) 12:20, 3:20, 6:30
DISNEY'S A CHRISTMAS CAROL 3D (PG) 2:15, 4:50, 7:30, 10:00

Regal Ballston Common Stadium

Arlington	www.regmovies.com
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AVATAR (PG-13)
ARMORED (PG-13) 2:40, 5:05, 7:30, 9:55
BROTHERS (R) 1:55, 4:45, 7:40, 10:35
NINJA ASSASSIN (R) 3:00, 5:35, 8:10, 10:40
THE TWILIGHT SAGA: NEW MOON (PG-13) 1:50, 4:55, 8:00, 12:50, 2:55, 3:55, 6:00, 7:00, 9:00
PIRATE RADIO (R) 1:35, 4:25, 7:20, 10:15
2012 (PG-13) 12:40, 3:15, 4:15, 6:50, 7:50, 10:25
DISNEY'S A CHRISTMAS CAROL 3D (PG) 1:30, 4:00, 6:30, 9:10
COUPLES RETREAT (PG-13) 1:00, 3:45
PARANORMAL ACTIVITY (R) 10:05
GLENN BECK'S "THE CHRISTMAS SWEATER" (NR) 8:00

AMC Theatres Hoffman Center

Alexandria	www.amctheatres.com
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GLENN BECK'S "THE CHRISTMAS SWEATER" (NR) 8:00 P.M.
ARMORED (PG-13) 11:25, 1:55, 4:35, 7:05, 9:40
BROTHERS (R) 11:05, 1:50, 4:40, 7:20, 10:00
EVERYBODY'S FINE (PG-13) 11:40, 2:40, 5:25, 8:00
TRANSLYMANIA (R) 11:05, 1:40, 4:10, 6:45, 9:30
AMC Select
THE BOONDOCK SAINTS II: ALL SAINTS DAY (R) 4:25 P.M.
OLD DOGS (PG) 11:20, 12:50, 1:50, 3:30, 4:15, 6:10, 6:55, 9:35
FANTASTIC MR. FOX (PG) 11:45, 2:15, 4:40, 7:15, 9:55
NINJA ASSASSIN (R) 11:30, 12:45, 2:25, 3:25, 5:05, 6:05, 7:50, 9:05
PLANET 51 (PG) 11:50, 12:20, 2:45, 3:00
THE TWILIGHT SAGA: NEW MOON (PG-13) 11:00, 1:00, 2:20, 4:30, 5:40, 7:45, 9:10, 12:40, 3:50, 7:00, 10:00
AMC Select
PRECIOUS: BASED ON THE NOVEL "PUSH" BY SAPPHIRE (R) 11:20, 12:10, 2:30, 3:15, 5:30, 6:20, 8:40, 9:25
THE BLIND SIDE (PG-13) 11:15, 1:30, 2:10, 5:00, 5:30, 8:20, 9:00
2012 (PG-13) 11:10, 3:20, 5:20, 7:20, 9:10, 9:10
DISNEY'S A CHRISTMAS CAROL 3D (PG) 12:30, 3:10, 5:45
IN DIGITAL 3-D
THE MEN WHO STARE AT GOATS (R) 9:15 P.M.
DISNEY'S A CHRISTMAS CAROL: AN IMAX 3D EXPERIENCE (PG) 11:35, 2:00, 4:45, 7:35
LAW ABIDING CITIZEN (R) 1:25, 7:25

AMC Theatres Courthouse Plaza

Arlington	www.amctheatres.com
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EVERYBODY'S FINE (PG-13) 2:40, 5:00, 7:20, 9:40
TRANSLYMANIA (R) 3:10, 5:30, 7:50, 10:00
OLD DOGS (PG) 3:40, 5:50, 7:10, 8:10, 9:20
PLANET 51 (PG) 3:00, 5:20, 7:40, 9:55
THE BLIND SIDE (PG-13) 4:10, 7:00, 9:50
2:20, 5:10, 8:00

THE MEN WHO STARE AT GOATS (R) 2:25, 4:40, 7:30, 9:45
WHERE THE WILD THINGS ARE (PG) 2:30, 4:50

AMC Loews Shirlington

Arlington	www.amctheatres.com
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AMC Select
THE MESSENGER (R) 12:10, 2:35, 5:05, 7:35
AMC Select
BAD LIEUTENANT: PORT OF CALL NEW ORLEANS (R) 12:00, 2:40, 5:20, 8:00
AMC Select
PIRATE RADIO (R) 1:30, 4:15, 7:20
AMC Select
GOOD HAIR (PG-13) 12:20, 2:40, 5:00, 7:15
AMC Select
AN EDUCATION (PG-13) 12:25, 2:50, 5:15, 7:40
AMC Select
A SERIOUS MAN (R) 12:30, 2:55, 5:20, 7:45
AMC Select
COCO BEFORE CHANEL (PG-13) 1:55, 4:35, 7:10

Maryland

AFI Silver Theatre Cultural Center

Silver Spring	www.afi.com/silver
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AN EDUCATION (PG-13) 1:05, 3:05, 5:05, 7:05, 9:10
A SERIOUS MAN (R) 4:30, 9:45
LA DANSE (NR) 1:20, 6:45
THE SECRET POLICEMAN'S BALL (NR) 6:00 P.M.
THE SECRET POLICEMAN'S OTHER BALL (R) 7:30 P.M.

Landmark Bethesda Row Cinema

Bethesda	www.landmarktheatres.com
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BROTHERS (R) 1:50, 4:25, 7:05, 9:45
FANTASTIC MR. FOX (PG) 12:45, 3:00, 5:15, 7:30, 9:50
THE ROAD (R) 1:45, 4:20, 7:00, 9:30
AN EDUCATION (PG-13) 2:05, 4:30, 7:10, 9:35
PIRATE RADIO (R) 1:25, 4:05, 6:45, 9:25
PRECIOUS: BASED ON THE NOVEL "PUSH" BY SAPPHIRE (R) 1:30, 4:15, 7:15, 9:55
BAD LIEUTENANT: PORT OF CALL NEW ORLEANS (R) 1:20, 4:00, 6:50, 9:40
A SERIOUS MAN (R) 2:15, 7:20
THE MEN WHO STARE AT GOATS (R) 4:45, 10:00

AMC Loews Center Park

Beltsville	www.amctheatres.com
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ARMORED (PG-13) 2:50, 5:15, 7:30
BROTHERS (R) 2:15, 4:55, 7:40
OLD DOGS (PG) 2:25, 4:40, 7:15
NINJA ASSASSIN (R) 3:00, 5:30, 7:50
PLANET 51 (PG) 2:40, 4:50, 7:25
THE TWILIGHT SAGA: NEW MOON (PG-13) 4:10, 7:00, 4:10, 7:00
THE BLIND SIDE (PG-13) 2:00, 5:00, 7:55
2012 (PG-13) 4:00, 7:20

AMC Loews White Flint

Kensington	www.amctheatres.com
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OLD DOGS (PG) 1:15, 4:15, 7:15
FANTASTIC MR. FOX (PG) 1:45, 4:45, 7:40
THE TWILIGHT SAGA: NEW MOON (PG-13) 1:00, 4:00, 7:00
THE BLIND SIDE (PG-13) 1:30, 4:30, 7:30
2012 (PG-13) 3:15, 6:45

AMC Magic Johnson Capital Center

Largo	www.amctheatres.com
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ARMORED (PG-13) 12:15, 2:25, 4:35, 7:05, 9:35
BROTHERS (R) 12:00, 2:30, 5:15, 7:50, 10:25
OLD DOGS (PG) 12:05, 2:35, 5:05, 7:35, 9:50
FANTASTIC MR. FOX (PG) 12:10, 2:40, 5:10, 7:40, 10:10
NINJA ASSASSIN (R) 1:35, 4:05, 6:30, 9:00
1:35, 4:05, 6:30, 9:00
PLANET 51 (PG) 12:05, 2:20, 4:40, 7:10, 9:40
THE TWILIGHT SAGA: NEW MOON (PG-13) 12:25, 1:25, 4:25, 7:25, 10:25
AMC Select
PRECIOUS: BASED ON THE NOVEL "PUSH" BY SAPPHIRE (R) 1:30, 3:30, 4:30, 6:35, 7:30, 9:05, 10:05
THE BLIND SIDE (PG-13) 1:15, 4:15, 7:15, 10:15
2012 (PG-13) 12:05, 3:40, 7:00, 10:20
DISNEY'S A CHRISTMAS CAROL 3D (PG) 12:00, 2:30, 5:00, 7:20, 10:00
IN DIGITAL 3-D

Regal Bethesda

Bethesda	www.regmovies.com
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AVATAR (PG-13)
IT'S COMPLICATED (R)
ALVIN AND THE CHIPMUNKS: THE SQUEAKQUEL (PG)
EVERYBODY'S FINE (PG-13) 2:30, 4:50, 7:10, 9:30
ARMORED (PG-13) 1:10, 3:20, 5:40, 8:00, 10:30
OLD DOGS (PG) 12:50, 2:05, 3:00, 5:10, 7:30, 9:40
NINJA ASSASSIN (R) 3:10, 5:30, 7:50, 10:15
THE BLIND SIDE (PG-13) 1:30, 4:30, 7:20, 10:20
PLANET 51 (PG) 2:00, 4:20, 6:40, 8:50
THE TWILIGHT SAGA: NEW MOON (PG-13) 1:40, 4:10, 4:40, 7:00, 7:40, 10:00
12:10 (PG-13) 12:10, 2:45, 4:55, 7:05, 9:15
DISNEY'S A CHRISTMAS CAROL 3D (PG) 1:45, 4:00, 6:30, 9:00

Regal Majestic Cinema

Silver Spring	www.regmovies.com
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AVATAR (PG-13)
IT'S COMPLICATED (R)
ALVIN AND THE CHIPMUNKS: THE SQUEAKQUEL (PG)
THE BLIND SIDE (PG-13) 1:15, 2:20, 4:15, 5:20, 7:10, 8:15, 10:10
BROTHERS (R) 1:40, 4:35, 7:35, 10:20
ARMORED (PG-13) 12:10, 2:45, 4:55, 7:05, 9:15
EVERYBODY'S FINE (PG-13) 11:55, 2:10, 5:05, 7:25, 9:45
TRANSLYMANIA (R) 1:25, 3:50, 9:05
OLD DOGS (PG) 12:00, 12:30, 1:05, 2:05, 2:40, 3:20, 4:10, 5:35, 6:35, 7:50, 8:45, 10:05, 10:55
NINJA ASSASSIN (R) 11:50, 12:50, 2:30, 3:25, 5:10, 6:05, 7:40, 8:35, 10:00, 11:05
THE TWILIGHT SAGA: NEW MOON (PG-13) 1:30, 4:30, 1:40, 4:40, 7:00, 9:50, 10:00, 5:00, 8:00, 10:30
FANTASTIC MR. FOX (PG) 12:35, 3:00, 5:45, 8:05, 10:15
2012 (PG-13) 1:15, 4:50, 8:10
PRECIOUS: BASED ON THE NOVEL "PUSH" BY SAPPHIRE (R) 12:15, 3:10, 4:45, 5:50, 7:45, 8:30, 10:40
PLANET 51 (PG) 1:40, 4:05, 6:45
PIRATE RADIO (R) 12:55, 6:50
THE MEN WHO STARE AT GOATS (R) 3:45, 9:35
DISNEY'S A CHRISTMAS CAROL 3D (PG) 1:10, 3:40, 6:10, 8:25

Regal Royale Stadium

Hyattsville	www.regmovies.com
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AVATAR (PG-13)
IT'S COMPLICATED (R)
ALVIN AND THE CHIPMUNKS: THE SQUEAKQUEL (PG)
ARMORED (PG-13) 1:20, 3:30, 5:40, 7:50, 10:40
EVERYBODY'S FINE (PG-13) 1:40, 4:30, 7:20, 10:25
BROTHERS (R) 1:10, 4:30, 7:10, 10:00
7:25, 10:05
OLD DOGS (PG) 1:35, 2:05, 3:55, 4:25, 7:25, 10:05
NINJA ASSASSIN (R) 1:55, 4:45, 7:40, 10:30
THE BLIND SIDE (PG-13) 1:00, 1:30, 3:50, 4:40, 6:20, 6:50, 7:30, 9:50, 10:20
PLANET 51 (PG) 1:45, 4:05, 6:55, 9:55
THE TWILIGHT SAGA: NEW MOON (PG-13) 1:05, 4:10, 7:05, 10:10
FANTASTIC MR. FOX (PG) 2:00, 4:30, 6:40, 9:35
2012 (PG-13) 1:15, 4:50, 8:10
PRECIOUS: BASED ON THE NOVEL "PUSH" BY SAPPHIRE (R) 1:25, 4:15, 6:45, 7:15, 9:45, 10:15
DISNEY'S A CHRISTMAS CAROL 3D (PG) 1:50, 4:40, 7:00, 9:40

Regal Rockville Center Stadium

Rockville	www.regmovies.com
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AVATAR (PG-13)
IT'S COMPLICATED (R)
ALVIN AND THE CHIPMUNKS: THE SQUEAKQUEL (PG)
BROTHERS (R) 1:50, 4:40, 7:40, 10:40
ARMORED (PG-13) 1:30, 4:30, 7:30, 10:00
EVERYBODY'S FINE (PG-13) 1:10, 3:40, 6:50, 9:20
THE BLIND SIDE (PG-13) 12:00, 1:00, 3:10, 4:10, 6:20, 7:20, 9:30, 10:30
NINJA ASSASSIN (R) 12:00, 2:20, 5:00, 7:50, 10:20
FANTASTIC MR. FOX (PG) 12:10, 2:30, 4:50, 7:10, 9:40
OLD DOGS (PG) 12:20, 1:20, 2:50, 3:50, 6:30, 8:50
PLANET 51 (PG) 1:40, 9:00
THE TWILIGHT SAGA: NEW MOON (PG-13) 12:30, 3:30, 7:10, 10:10
6:10, 9:10
PLANET 51 (PG) 4:00, 6:40
2012 (PG-13) 12:50, 4:20, 8:00
DISNEY'S A CHRISTMAS CAROL 3D (PG) 12:40, 3:20, 6:00, 8:40

P and G Montgomery Mall Cinema

Bethesda	
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OLD DOGS (PG) 3:10, 5:10, 7:15
PLANET 51 (PG) 3:10, 5:15, 7:30
THE TWILIGHT SAGA: NEW MOON (PG-13) 2:00, 4:45, 7:15



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the scene

Continued from E13

washington.

Hemphill Fine Arts: "Economy of Scale," group photography exhibition examines traditional understandings of the space afforded to photography versus painting, through Dec. 23. 1515 14th St. NW; 202-234-5601, hemphillfinearts.com.

LAST CHANCE Hillyer Art Space: "Ass Against the Wall," sculptures from Martha Jackson Jarvis illustrate points of resistance and endurance that provide patterns to life, through Sat. 9 Hillyer Court NW; 202-338-0680, artsandartists.org.

Hirshhorn: "Strange Bodies: Figurative Works From the Hirshhorn Collection," ongoing. "Anne Truitt: Perception

Everyone Has One



NATIONAL MUSEUM OF WOMEN IN THE ARTS

KEEP IT QUIET: The title says it all. "Telling Secrets: Codes, Captions, and Conundrums in Contemporary Art" at the National Museum of Women in the Arts delves into the multiple layers of significance found in artworks.



Robert Bergman, *Untitled*, 1989, inkjet print, 2004, Anonymous Gift. © Robert Bergman

ROBERT BERGMAN
PORTRAITS, 1986—1995

Through January 10, 2010

The exhibition is accompanied by *A Kind of Rapture* (Pantheon Books), an unprecedented collection of Bergman's photographs with essays by Toni Morrison and Meyer Schapiro, available wherever books are sold.

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and Reflection," a survey of large-scale work from the artist's 50-year career, through Jan. 3. "Directions: John Gerard," 3-D installation mixes reality with fiction in a new view of daytime, through May 31. 7th Street & Independence Avenue SW; 202-633-1000, hirshhorn.org.

LAST CHANCE Irvine Contemporary:

"Double Down," new stretching ink and gouache paintings from Oliver Vernon, through Sat. 1412 14th St. NW; 202-332-8767, irvinecontemporary.com.

The Jerusalem Fund Gallery:

"Mental Meditations," two-sided paintings from Ammar Qusaibaty use the idea of metaphor in Arabic culture to reflect on life and art, through Jan. 8. 2425 Virginia Ave. NW; 202-338-1958, thejerusalemfund.org.

The Joan Hisaoka Healing Arts

Gallery: "Ink-N-Print 09," Helen Frederick curates an affordable selection of the best local print artists, reception Fri., 6-8 p.m., through Dec. 24. 1632 U St. NW; 202-483-8600, smithfarm.com/gallery.

Katzen Arts Center: "Life With the Berlin Wall," a look through virtual reality into life behind the wall, through Dec. 20. 4400 Massachusetts Ave. NW; 202-7979-3025, american.edu/cas/katzen.

The Kreeger Museum: "Kentridge and Kudryashov: Against the Grain," dra-

Continued on E20

All the Colors of Creativity



ZEBRA VISUAL

STRETCHING THE MIND: There's a place for everyone at the Eureka Dance Festival. Emerging choreographers and dancers exhibit their talent, and dance students can expand their craft at the Jack Guidone Theatre this weekend.

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the scene

Continued from E19

matic and harsh political climates set the foundation for the terse and color-dipped paintings from South Africa's William Kentridge and Russia's Oleg Kudryashov, through Dec. 30; sculpture garden featuring works from the Washington Sculptors Guild, through June. 2401 Foxhall Road NW; 202-337-3050, kreegermuseum.org.

The Lyceum: "Tramping and Trailing With the Girl Scouts," collection of photos and artifacts detail the growth and expansion of scouting in the D.C. area, through May 31. 201 S. Washington St., Alexandria; 703-838-4554, historicalalexandria.org.

Mexican Cultural Institute: "Dialogues in Mexican Photography," showing the best of the Mexican photographic community, through Jan. 30. 2829 16th St. NW; 202-728-1628, instituteofmexicodc.org.

National Air and Space Museum: "Alan Bean: Painting Apollo, First Art-

No Leaf Is the Same



COURTESY PROJECT 4 GALLERY

GENTLE POSINGS: Simplicity and grace are hallmarks of Laurel Lukaszewski's elegant constructions at Project 4 Gallery, as she transforms the classic qualities of porcelain into piles that haunt and remind of what exists and what has been lost.

ist on Another World," reflections and paintings from the fourth man on the moon; ongoing exhibitions and largest collection of historic aircraft and spacecraft in the world. 6th Street & Independence Avenue SW; 202-633-1000, nasm.si.edu.

National Building Museum: "Form and Movement," photographs from Philip Trager explore light and symmetry in the construction of buildings, through Jan. 3. "House of Cars," exploring the relationship between parked cars and humans, through July. 401 F St. NW; 202-272-2448, nbm.org.

National Gallery of Art, East Building: "Editions With Additions: Working Proofs by Jasper Johns," through Jan. 10; "Alexander Calder"; "The Robert and Jane Meyeroff Collection: Selected Works," through May 2. **National Gallery of Art, West Building:** "Robert Bergman: Portraits, 1986-1995," portraits of the street people encountered and shot by the artist on an everyday basis through Jan. 10; "The Darker Side of Light: Arts of Privacy," moody reflections from private 19th-century collections, through Jan. 18; "Renaissance

Student Loan Eligibility

Dear American Student Assistance:

Q Can you tell me what types of student loans I will qualify for? I want to know all of my options. As a foster youth, I will have a hard time securing a cosigner for alternative loans, especially in this economy. Given these circumstances, I would like to know what federal loans I'll be eligible to receive as a full-time student only taking classes for one more semester.

Thank you,
Barry

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Dear Barry:

A The first step you'll need to take is to fill out the Free Application for Federal Student Aid (FAFSA), which is available at www.fafsa.ed.gov. The U.S. Department of Education will use your FAFSA to inform your school of the types of aid—and how much of each—you are eligible to receive.

Next, you should visit your school's financial aid office. They will be able to walk you through the types of aid and the amounts of each you qualify for. You can also find out about the various types of federal student loans at www.amsa.com/bor.

Don't forget to ask your financial aid office about specific need-based aid options, like scholarships, grants, work-study, and Perkins loans. Most schools offer these types of aid, and you will not have to pay back scholarships, grants, or work-study funds. Also, you may be able to find additional funding through the free scholarship search tools on www.finaid.org and www.collegeboard.com.

Regards,
American Student Assistance

E-mail us with your student loan questions at askasa@amsa.com

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Photo of Francesca Fordany and John Behrmann by Scott Suchman

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A Christmas Mystery

A TREE GROWS ON PENNSYLVANIA AVENUE: Imagine the White House being denied a Christmas tree. Well, little Ethel, Kermit and Archie Roosevelt have something to say about that in the holiday-themed, family-friendly theatrical mystery "Teddy Roosevelt and the Ghostly Mistletoe" at the Kennedy Center. Ghosts and giggles mix it up through Dec. 30.

to Revolution: French Drawings From the National Gallery of Art, 1500-1800," through Jan. 31; "Designing the Lincoln Memorial: Daniel Chester French & Henry Bacon" features a plaster final model of the statue, through Feb. "In the Darkroom: Photographic Processes Before the Digital Age," exhibition of the history and developing craft of capturing images on film, through March 14. Permanent exhibit, European and American paintings, sculpture and decorative arts from the 13th through the 19th centuries. 6th Street & Constitution Avenue NW; 202-737-4215, nga.gov.

National Geographic: "Terra Cotta Warriors," the legendary Chinese clay figures come to D.C., through March 31; "Polar Obsession," photographs from the frigid and chilling arctic world, through Feb. 15. "National Geographic Image Collection," best of the magazine's storied collection, through April 15. 1145 17th St. NW; 202-857-7588, nationalgeographic.com/museum.

National Museum of African Art: "Artful Animals," a family-friendly exhibition looks into Africa and its animals, through Feb. 21. 950 Independence Ave. SW; 202-633-4600, africa.si.edu.

National Museum of American History: The newly light-filled space contains an array of ongoing exhibitions, including "The Scurlock Studio and

Black Washington: Picturing the Promise," through Feb.; "The Star-Spangled Banner: The Flag That Inspired the National Anthem"; "On the Water: Stories From Maritime America"; "Bon Appetit! Julia Child's Kitchen at the Smithsonian"; and many more, permanent collection. 14th Street & Constitution Avenue NW; 202-633-1000, americanhistory.si.edu.

National Museum of the American Indian: "IndiVisible: African-Native American Lives in the Americas," 20-panel exhibition focuses on the relation between African American and American Indian people, through May 31. Displays about the history and culture of American Indians, permanent collection. 4th Street and Independence Avenue SW; 202-633-1000, nmai.si.edu.

National Museum of Natural History: "Dig It! The Secrets of the Soil," through Jan. "Since Darwin: The Evolution of Evolution," the history and timeline of one of the most influential scientific theories, through July 18; "Farmers, Warriors, Builders: The Hidden Life of Ants," the quiet and powerful impact of some of nature's smallest creatures, through Oct. 10; "Written in Bone: Forensic Files of the 17th-Century Chesapeake," through Feb. 2011, other permanent exhibitions. 10th Street & Constitution Ave-

nue NW; 202-633-1000, mnh.si.edu.

National Museum of Women in the Arts: "Land of Enchantment: Australian Aboriginal Painting," the intricate patterns and vibrant color of Australia's finest artists; "Telling Secrets: Codes, Captions, and Conundrums in Contemporary Art," 39 pieces of multilayered art offer the chance to contemplate the different meanings and interpretations; "Elements of Nature: Equines and Still Lifes by Clarice Smith," 20 paintings from Smith's keen vision of the natural world, all through Jan. 10; "Hard Copy, Book as Sculpture," books that blend the line between paper and sculpture, through Jan. 17. 1250 New York Ave. NW; 202-783-5000, nmwa.org.

National Portrait Gallery:

"Presidents in Waiting," through Jan. 3; "Faces of the Frontier: Photographic

Continued on E22



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the scene

Continued from E21

Portraits from the American West, 1845-1924," through Jan. 24; "Portraiture Now: Communities," the individual members of small towns and families come alive through the individual portraits, through July 5; "Outwin Boochever Portrait Competition," through Aug. Other permanent exhibitions, 8th & F streets NW; 202-633-1000, npg.si.edu.

LAST CHANCE Nevin Kelly Gallery:

"Zeitgeist II: What's Important Now," local artists respond to the pressing issues of today in a wide range of artistic ways, through Sat. 1400 Irving St. NW; 202-232-3464, nevinkellygallery.com.

Newseum: "Manhunt: Chasing Lincoln's Killer," how developments in journalism helped the pursuit of John Wilkes Booth, through Feb. 28. "Woodstock at 40: The Rise of Music Journalism," photographs, artifacts and coverage from the seminal event, through Oct. 31. "G-Men and Journalists," a history of media coverage and the FBI, both through Dec. 31; "Athlete: the Sports Illustrated Photography of Wal-

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ter looss," nearly 50 years of documenting the world of sports from one of its greatest photographers, through Dec. 31, ongoing permanent exhibitions illustrating the role of a free press in a free society. 555 Pennsylvania Ave. NW; 888-639-7386, newseum.org.

The Phillips Collection: "Man Ray, African Art and the Modernist Lens," iconic photos that recontextualized African art and revolutionized photography, through Jan. "Brain Storm," stunning video installation from Jennifer Wen Ma, through Jan. 3. "Object as Subject: Photographs of the Czech Avant-Garde," ahead-of-their-time photography from Czech artists, through Feb. 7. 1600 21st St. NW; 202-387-2151,

phillipscollection.org.

Project 4 Gallery: "Once," elegant porcelain forms from Laura Lukaszewski are draped gracefully throughout the gallery in a tough-but-fragile installation, through Dec. 18. 1353 U St. NW; 202-232-4340, project4gallery.com.

Renwick Gallery: "Staged Stories: Renwick Craft Invitational 2009," Christyl Boger, Mark Newport, Mary Van Cline and SunKoo Yuh handle ceramic and fiber past traditional limits of functionality and focus on the narrative qualities of their material, through Jan. 3; "Grand Salon — Paintings From the Smithsonian American Art Museum," permanent. 1661 Pennsylvania Ave. NW; 202-633-2850, america-

nart.si.edu/renwick.

Reyes + Davis: "Fine Lines," An exhibition of drawings from Janis Goodman, Kate McGraw, Linn Meyers and Jennifer Mullins, through Dec. 31. "Icarus: Intersections," through Jan. 31. 923 F St. NW; 202-255-5050, reyesdavis.com.

Smithsonian American Art Museum: "1934: A New Deal for Artists," paintings spawned from the first federally funded program for the arts, through Jan. 3. "The Honor of Your Company Is Requested," President Abraham Lincoln's inaugural ball, through Jan. 18. "What's It All Mean?" retrospective of the paintings and work of William T. Wiley, through Jan. 24. Permanent col-

lection, ongoing. 8th & F streets NW; 202-633-1000, americanart.si.edu.

Stamp Gallery: "Toppled," multi-dimensional media mix in Jessica Vaughn's examination of the role of movement in the exploration of race, politics and myth, through Dec. 18. 1222 Stamp Student Union, University of Maryland, Baltimore Avenue & Rossborough Lane, College Park, Md.; 301-405-1000, thestamp.umd.edu/gallery.

Studio Gallery: "Call and Response," 35 member artists exhibit a range of works encompassing various forms and topics, through Dec. 19. 2108 R St.; 202-232-8734, studiogallerydc.com.

The Textile Museum: "Recent Acqui-

sitions," the top new additions to the museum, through Jan. 3; "Contemporary Japanese Fashion: The Mary Basket Collection," through April 11. 2320 S St. NW; 202-667-0441, textilemuseum.org.

Transformer Gallery: "A Hole in the Wall," yellow bricks, video and changing constructions mark Geoffrey Aldridge's reflections on the continuing struggle of the gay community, through Dec. 26. 1404 P St. NW; 202-483-1102, transformergallery.org.

U.S. Botanic Garden: "African-American Gardens: Places of the Spirit." "Holiday Magic," through Jan. 10. Permanent exhibitions of more than 4,000 plants and a tropical rain forest. 100 Maryland Ave. SW; 202-

Continued on E24

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the scene

Continued from E23

225-8333, usbg.gov.

U.S. Holocaust Memorial Museum: "A Dangerous Lie: Protocols of the Elders of Zion," "State of Deception: The Power of Nazi Propaganda," "Remember the Chil-

dren: Daniel's Story," alongside other poignant exhibitions of artifacts, photographs and oral histories from the Holocaust era. 100 Raoul Wallenberg Place/15th St. SW; 202-488-0400, ushmm.org.

Washington Printmakers Gallery: "Days o' Work," etchings, woodcuts and rubbings from Trudi Y Ludwig provide an earthy center to philosophical conundrums. 1732 Connecticut Ave. NW; 202-332-7757, washing-

tonprintmakers.com.

Washington Project for the Arts: "Ice-box," a collection of small and reasonably priced works just in time for the season of giving, through Dec. 21. 2023 Massachusetts Ave. NW; 202-234-7103, wpadc.org.

Washington Sculptors Group: "With These Hands: the Sculptures of Sy Gresser and Bill Taylor," two area sculptors' work shows at the University of Maryland's Uni-

versity College, through Dec. 15. 3501 University Blvd. E., Adelphi, Md.; 301-955-7937, washingtonsculptors.org.

Winter Palace Studio: "Black Kitchen Magic, Etc.," realistic paintings from Natasha Mokina and Victor Pakhomkin, through Dec. 14. 1054 31st St. NW; 301-263-0000, winterpalacestudio.com.

WVSA Articulate Gallery: "It's All About the Journey," transportation-

themed art from some of younger artists of WVSA, through Jan. 23. 1100 16th St. NW; 202-296-9100, wvsarts.org.

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Spring Stage, through Dec. 20, \$5-\$10.
10145 Colesville Road, Silver Spring; 301-593-6036, ssstage.org.

As You Like It: The Bard is placed on a movie set as director Maria Aitken retells Shakespeare's story of searching for love and missed connections in the mythical land of Hollywood film history, through Dec. 22, \$20-\$87. 516 8th St. SE; 877-487-8849, shakespearetheatre.org.

August: Osage County: The Pulitzer Prize- and Tony Award-winning play details of the climactic meltdown of one large family, through Dec. 20, \$25-\$80. Kennedy Center, 2700 F St. NW; 800-444-1324, kennedy-center.org.

Camelot: The Tony Award-winning musical journey into the knight-circled table and kingdom, through Jan. 17, \$26-\$49. Olney Theatre Center, 2001 Olney-Sandy Spring Road, Olney; 301-924-3400, olneytheatre.org.

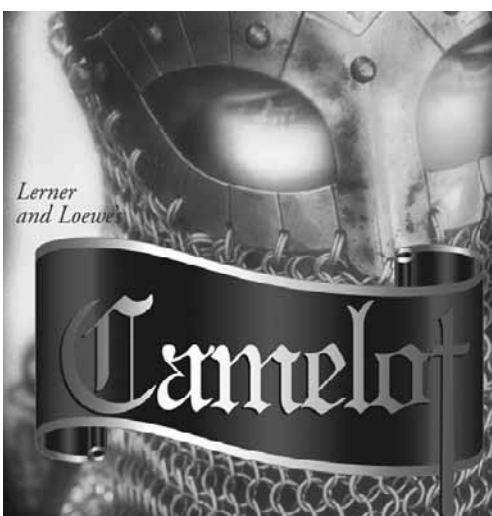
Continued on E26

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11 FRI ★ Beltway Brass Quintet
Led by Zack Smith, the group plays jazzy and jaunty arrangements of holiday favorites.

12 SAT ★ Gospel Celebration: WPAS Men, Women, and Children of the Gospel Choir
This auditioned assembly of adult and children's voices from across the region sings songs of praise.

IN THE TERRACE THEATER
13 SUN ★ DC Youth Orchestra
Now in its 50th season, the Youth Orchestra is the most advanced of the DC Youth Orchestra Program, under the direction of Maestro Jesus Manuel Berard.

14 MON ★ MERRY TUBACHRISTMAS!
The 36th anniversary of this holiday tradition in which tuba, sousaphone, and euphonium players from around D.C. play traditional Christmas music led by Harvey Phillips. Grab your instrument and arrive for rehearsal at 3 p.m.

15 TUE ★ Pirai Vaca
The Bolivian guitarist has won competitions all around the world. Presented in cooperation with the Embassy of Bolivia.

16 WED ★ Encore Chorale
Singers over the age of 55 perform crowd-pleasing holiday music.

17 THU ★ Gospel Celebration: The Sweet Heaven Kings
The 16-member gospel brass and percussion ensemble creates a joyful holiday program.

18 FRI ★ Margot MacDonald
The 2007 New Artist of the Year and 2008 Modern Rock Vocalist Wammie winner, also a Strathmore Artist-in-Residence, brings her acoustic quartet.

19 SAT ★ The Peace Ringers
The group performs sacred and popular holiday music on traditional hand bells.

20 SUN ★ Laura Tsaggaris
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21 MON ★ Virginia Virtuosi
The string trio specializes in elegant arrangements of music from Bach to the Beatles.

22 TUE ★ Last Train Home
A favorite of the D.C. roots-rock scene, Last Train Home delivers original holiday tunes and interpretations of yuletide classics.

23 WED ★ Gospel Celebration: Isaiah D. Thomas and Elements of Praise
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the scene

Continued from E25

A Christmas Carol: Scrooge and the Christmastime ghosts come to life in Ford's Theatre's rendering of Charles Dickens' classic story, through Jan. 3. \$30-\$41. 514 10th St. NW; 800-587-5238, fords.org.

LAST CHANCE The Christmas Rev-

els: Celebrate the seasons, Italian Renaissance style, in this music- and dance-filled performance, through Sun., \$12-\$45. Lisner Auditorium, 730 21st St. NW; 800-595-4849, revelsdc.org.

The Fantasticks: Arena Stage puts on the timeless musical love story, with its bevy of beautiful songs, through Jan. 10. \$25-\$74. 1215 U St. NW; 202-488-3300, arenastage.org.

LAST CHANCE Jersey Boys: The Tony Award-winning, song-filled story of four

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Look Out Below! The end of the 19th century is greeted in a balloon-filled adventure appropriate for the whole family, through Dec. 20, \$10-\$15, Round House Theatre, 4545 East-West Highway, Bethesda; 240-644-1100, roundhousetheatre.org.

Pearl Bailey ... by Request: Roz White plays the wily songbird, through Dec. 20, \$45-\$50. Metro Stage, 1201 N. Royal St., Alexandria; 800-494-8497, metrostage.org.

Seasonal Disorder: Washington Improv Theater tackles the dysfunction and insanity of the holidays, through Dec. 19, \$25. Source Theatre, 1835 14th St. NW; 800-494-8497, sourcedc.org.

Showboat: The musical about life on the Mississippi provides a look into the nature of change and prejudice, through Jan. 17, \$30-\$57. Signature Theatre, 4200 Campbell Ave., Arlington; 703-573-7328, signature-theatre.org.

The Solid Gold Cadillac: Corporate greed and economic malaise aren't just for the headlines in this 1953 comedy, through Jan. 10, \$42-\$63; Studio Theatre, 1501 14th St. NW; 202-332-3300, studiotheatre.org.

LAST CHANCE Striking 12: A music-filled, jazzed-up retelling of one grumpy holiday homebody who discovers the true meaning of Christmas, through Sun., \$27-\$48, Arena Stage, 1800 S. Bell St., Arlington; 202-488-3300, arena

stage.org.

Teddy Roosevelt and the Ghostly Mistletoe: When a president says no, that means no. Unless you're the mischievous first children and Dad won't let you have a Christmas tree. This family-friendly mystery runs through Dec. 30, \$18. Kennedy Center, 2700 F St. NW; 202-467-4600, kennedy-center.org.

Too Much Light Makes the Baby Go Blind: Chicago's Neo-Futurists tackle 30 plays in 60 minutes in an exhausting feat of improv, through Jan. 2, \$30. Woolly Mammoth Theatre Company, 641 D St. NW; 202-393-3939, woollymammoth.net.

Uh Oh, Here Comes Christmas: The books of Robert Fulghum come to the stage in an family-friendly explosion of song and seasonality, through Dec. 20, \$10-\$13. Laurel Mill Playhouse, 508 Main St., Laurel, Md.; 301-617-9906, laurelmillplayhouse.com.

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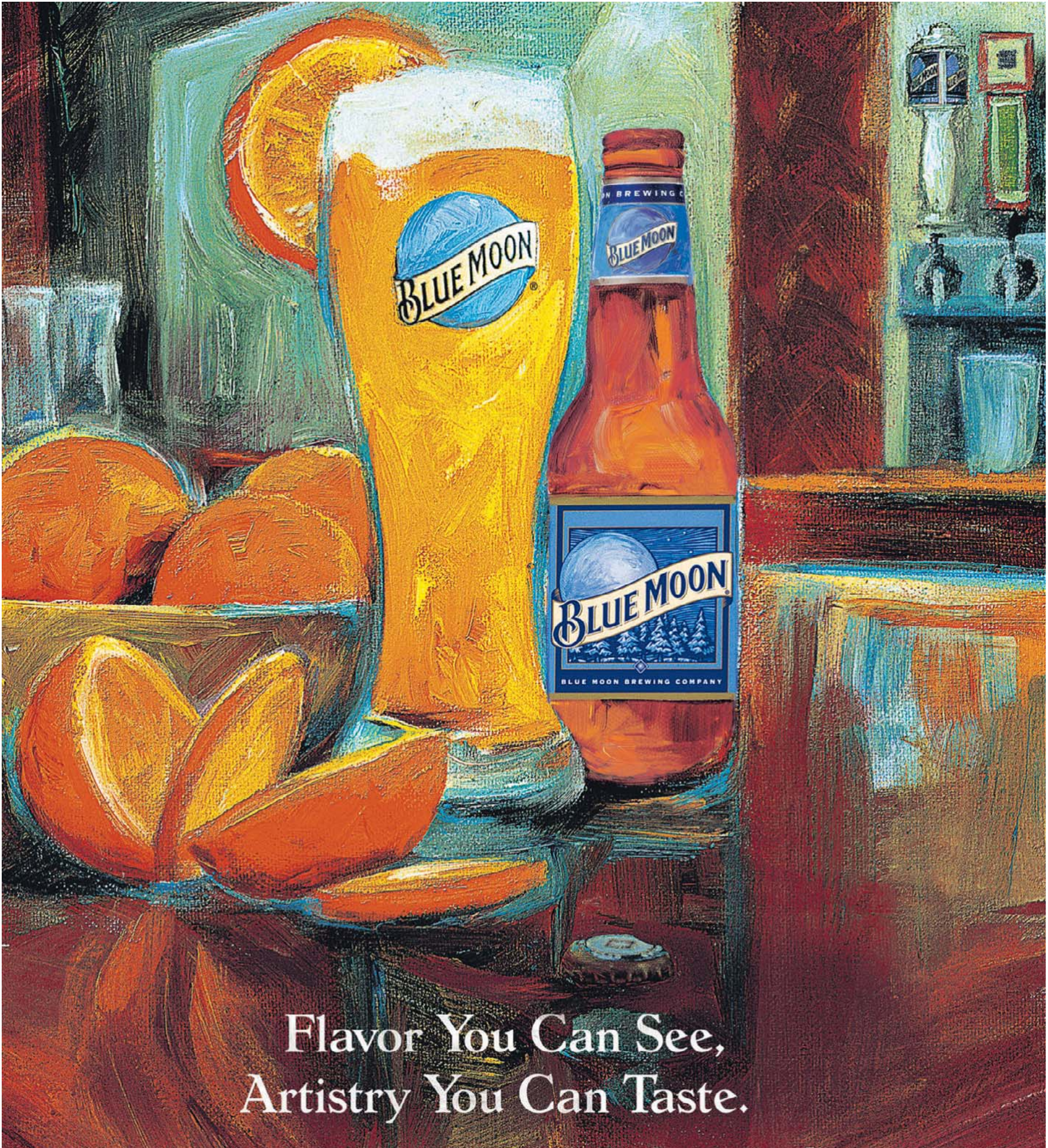
Valerie Vigoda, photo by Joan Marcus

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Broadcast Muse



'Betty,' Buena

Way back when, in, like, 2007, "Ugly Betty" and "The Office" were clever stars of Thursday night. Then "Betty" jumped the shark, spinning through absurd plots and killing characters in preposterous ways. This fall, ABC banished "Betty" to Fridays at 9 p.m., where shows go to die. "The Office," meanwhile, forged ahead, setting new standards of wonderfulness. Dwight euthanized Angela's aging cat Sprinkles in her freezer. Need I say more?

But now "The Office" has turned predictable and unpleasant. Jim got a promotion and became a bumbler. Michael broke a 10-year-old promise to pay for the college education of local kids. The superb supporting cast is virtually idle. As for Betty, she has unjumped the shark! With flat-ironed hair and cool clothes, she is an editor at Mode but still a lovable nerd at heart. Tomorrow, the show airs its final Friday night episode before a triumphant promotion to Wednesday at 10 p.m., starting Jan. 6. Previews promise guys in ascots and positive pregnancy tests. And word has it that Betty's braces will come off in 2010.

And don't abandon "The Office" yet. Tonight, sweet, tart-tongued Phyllis is slated to play Scranton Santa.



Seasonal Sounds

It's an annual ritual — the flooding of the music market with holiday titles, and this year is no exception. What follows is a look at some of the most interesting collections available. **RANDY LEWIS (LOS ANGELES TIMES)**

1



Sugarland Gold and Green

The country duo have fun getting into the holiday spirit in 10 songs, half of them freshly written for this CD. "Little Wood Guitar" puts a homey musical spin on what the season means over time, while "Coming Home" taps the warmth of a family reunion and the melancholy that this time of the year can bring.

2



Sting If on a Winter's Night

Leave it to pop's Renaissance man to deliver a seasonal collection that would have been right at home during the Renaissance. It's not a Christmas album in the traditional sense; instead, it's a collection of wintry songs crafted from prose and poetry by Robert Louis Stevenson, Michael Praetorius, John Dryden and even Sting himself. It's an ambitious undertaking, only occasionally bowing under the weight of grand intentions.

3



Mama Doni Chanukah Fever

Mama Doni, aka singer-songwriter-producer Doni Zasloff Thomas, goes primarily for campy Yiddish humor in this lo-fi, bedroom-studio-sounding outing. The wit isn't consistently inspired, eliciting modest smiles rather than belly laughs. She even gets warmly sincere in "Eight," a song that celebrates the myriad manifestations of love represented by the number of days in the Jewish holiday season.

4



Bob Dylan Christmas in the Heart

Most seasonal albums invite listeners to celebrate; Dylan's practically forces you to cogitate. His 15-song collection tips a hat to holiday recordings from genre standard-bearers such as Bing Crosby to wisecracking upstarts including Brave Combo. Innocuous background music? Not a chance. Proceeds benefit hunger relief organizations.

5



David Archuleta Christmas From the Heart

America's favorite elfin pop idol, Archie sounds every bit as spot-on key and invested with holiday reverence and good cheer as humanly possible. And given that "American Idol" is about meeting popular expectations rather than exceeding them, it's somehow comforting that within the familiar arrangements are a few intriguing touches such as the musical quotations of Bach's "Jesu, Joy of Man's Desiring" in his version of "Angels We Have Heard on High."

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expressnightout.com ►► 'A Christmas Carol' has been adapted like the Dickens. We round up some of the best attempts. ►► 30 Seconds to Mars' latest album is light-years away from realizing the band's potential ►► Those 'SNL'-style Tiger Woods domestic violence jokes aren't funny, says our Dr. Andrea Bonior



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Have a Cup of Joe With George

Stephanopoulos will follow Diane Sawyer as co-host of 'Good Morning America'

Television

George Stephanopoulos has accepted ABC's offer to co-host "Good Morning America" and will start Monday, and Chris Cuomo will remain with the network as the co-anchor of "20/20."

The network plans to formally announce Thursday that Stephanopoulos will succeed Diane Sawyer on the morning show, and that Emmy Award-winning ABC corre-

spondent JuJu Chang will take Cuomo's spot as news anchor. Chang also writes a blog about balancing work and family called "JuJu Juggles."

The Washington Post reported last week that ABC News President David Westin had offered Stephanopoulos the job, picking him over Cuomo to co-host GMA with Robin Roberts.

ABC has essentially come to terms with Cuomo, son of former New York governor Mario Cuomo, to co-anchor "20/20," according to network sources who would not be quoted by name discussing internal personnel matters. But the final contractual details



George Stephanopoulos beat out Chris Cuomo of "20/20" for the coveted "GMA" gig.

remain to be hammered out, those sources say.

Cuomo, who was being courted by other networks, was considering leaving ABC unless he got an offer to be an anchor on the news-magazine show.

The sources say Stephanopoulos will continue to host "This Week" for an unspecified period of time while the network figures out who will succeed him. That means Stephanopoulos will essentially be working seven days a week, in New York for "GMA" and back in Washington for the Sunday show.

Stephanopoulos, now ABC's chief Washington correspondent, had told network executives he wanted to inject "GMA" with a harder-news focus as a condition of taking the job. **HOWARD KURTZ (THE WASHINGTON POST)**

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'The World' Abruptly Stops

Another canceled TV series highlights the ongoing decline of the soap opera

Television

Procter & Gamble, the company responsible for the phrase "soap operas," is out of the daytime drama business after 76 years, now that CBS is making "As the World Turns" stop spinning.

The network announced the cancellation on Tuesday, the day "As the World Turns" broadcast its 13,661st episode. Its last episode will air next September, CBS said.

It's the second daytime drama CBS has canceled in a year, after "Guiding Light." They were the



Anthony Herrera and Zsa Zsa Gabor on the set of "As the World Turns" in 1981.

last two produced by a subsidiary of Procter & Gamble, the Cincinnati-based company for which the term "soap operas" was created because it used the shows to hawk products such as Ivory soap.

Daytime dramas have been fading as a genre for years due to more

women joining the work force and the increased number of channels offering alternatives such as news, talk, reality and game shows. In tough economic times, paying casts, producers and writers proved prohibitive to networks.

The cancellation will leave CBS

with only two daytime dramas: "The Young and the Restless" and "The Bold and Beautiful." ABC has three soaps left and NBC has one.

Through the years, actors Marisa Tomei, Meg Ryan, Parker Posey and James Earl Jones have appeared on "As the World Turns." The show follows families in the Illinois town of Oakdale.

"It's a hell of a Christmas present," said actress Eileen Fulton, who will mark 50 years playing the character Lisa Grimaldi on the show. Her character has been through nine marriages, and Fulton was hoping for a 10th.

"I'm just very sad," she said. "I'm sad for all of the people who work out there in Brooklyn [where the show is filmed]. We're a family. I hate to be split up. It's like a divorce." **DAVID BAUDER (AP)**



Vanity Project Risqué Read

R. Kelly is writing more chapters, but this time, it's not for his "Trapped" saga, but for a new memoir. The 42-year-old singer, writer and producer says in a statement issued Wednesday that he is working on an autobiography with David Ritz that will "tell it like it is." The book promises to go through all his drama, including child pornography charges that ended with an acquittal. The autobiography is untitled right now, just like his new CD. **(AP)**

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JIM COOPER/AP

The Baltimore-bred psych-pop outfit offers up more goodies on "Fall Be Kind."

Short, But So Sweet

Animal Collective keeps the bar high with just five songs

CD Review

Animal Collective is on such a prolonged and spectacular hot streak that it has managed to turn a type of release that's almost always a throwaway — the stop-gap EP — into something essential. "Fall Be Kind" comes nearly a year after likely critical consensus album of the year "Merriweather Post Pavilion." A collection of leftovers and half-baked ideas would have done the trick. But this five-song outing is a reminder that not only does the Baltimore-bred group do melty, mind-bending psychedelic-pop better than any of its peers, but it does that better than pretty much anyone does anything these days.

The centerpiece of the EP is "What Would I Want? Sky," notable for being the first song to feature

an officially licensed Grateful Dead sample. After a couple minutes of hypnotic chanting and clanging, a bouncy beat breaks through the mist and transforms the song from a meditation to a celebration. Phil Lesh coos in the background, AC singers Avey Tare and Panda Bear wrap their elastic vocals around the rhythm, and chimes, bleeps and layers of harmonies shoot in from all sides. There's a lot going on, but the insistent singsongy repetition of the title makes it one of the band's best pop songs to date.

"Bleeding" and "On a Highway" hardly use any percussion, focusing solely on the band's impressive vocal gymnastics, but "I Think I Can" once again brings all of the elements together — it's a romp as gleeful as it is bizarre, and it's easy to love since it's sung like a lullaby from some parallel universe.

DAVID MALITZ (THE WASHINGTON POST)

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For a track-by-track rundown of this album, visit expressnightout.com

Casting Call



Black and White All Over

Elijah Wood and Robin Williams are in negotiations to reprise their roles as the lead voices in **Happy Feet 2**, Warner Bros.' sequel to Village Roadshow's 2006 Oscar-winning animated hit. George Miller is back in the director's chair. Wood would reprise Mumble, the penguin who can't sing but can dance the tuxedo off of any waddler around him. Williams would be back as the hyper-active penguin Ramon. The original "Feet" grossed almost \$198 million domestically. (THE HOLLYWOOD REPORTER)

TV tonight **lookout****Best Bets****NBC
8:00****Community**

Shirley is surprised to discover her classmates come from different religious backgrounds as she plans a holiday party. A campus bully (guest star Anthony Michael Hall) challenges Jeff to a fight in the new episode "Comparative Religion."

**FOX
8:00****Bones**

Brennan and Booth investigate after a man dressed as Santa is blown up. Meanwhile, Brennan's father (guest star Ryan O'Neal) invites a distant relative, Margaret Whitesell (guest star Zoey Deschanel), to spend Christmas with him and his daughter.

**NBC
9:00****The Office**

Michael is outraged when Jim lets Phyllis be Santa — Michael's traditional role — at the office Christmas party. Despite uncertainty about the future of their company, Jim and Dwight try to get everyone in the holiday spirit. Plus, Oscar has a secret crush.

**BRAVO
10:00****The Real Housewives of Orange County**

Vicki schemes to surprise Donn for their 15th anniversary, hoping to repair their marriage. Meanwhile, Alexis brings the 20-month-old twins for a mani/pedi at a local salon and Lynne undergoes a face-lift. (TRIBUNE MEDIA)



GREGORY BULLI/AP

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AMER.
8:00**

As the title suggests, "Pedigree Dogs Exposed" looks at the dark side of breed competitions such as Westminster in the U.S. and Crufts in Britain. It argues forcefully that many breeds have been genetically mutated to conform to arbitrary cosmetic standards. This is one "Best in Show" expose you won't be laughing at. (UNITED FEATURE SYNDICATE)

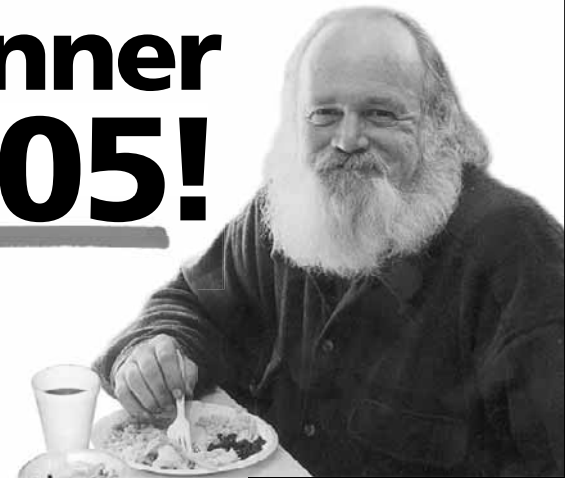
Fan Fave**O, Holy Mess**

On tonight's "30 Rock," (9:30 p.m., NBC) Jack's interest in a new social networking Web site unexpectedly connects him with a high school crush (guest star Julianne Moore). Kenneth runs into resistance as he tries to organize a secret Santa swap. Liz must buy a gift that is good enough for Jack, and Jenna is horrified to be asked to share her Christmas solo. (TRIBUNE MEDIA)

Complete Christmas Dinner for \$2.05!

No one should go hungry during the Christmas season — especially when it costs so little to serve a complete meal to a hungry and homeless person. This hot dinner that friends like you help provide is the first step in dealing with the problems of the homeless. Then comes help with addiction recovery, job training, education and spiritual renewal.

So please help someone get started toward a new life. Just fill in the Christmas Meal Ticket below. Then mail it with your gift today. *Thank you.*



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YES, I want to help! Here's my gift of:

- ☐ \$16.40 provides 8 meals and hope
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 Amount \$ _____
 Card type _____ Exp. _____
 Card # _____
 Phone # (_____) _____
 Email _____
 YSJ12 CFC#18948

Thank you!

You will receive a receipt.

CLIP AND MAIL WITH YOUR TAX-DEDUCTIBLE GIFT TODAY.

MEAL TICKET

MEAL TICKET

Poll Center

Today's Question

SHOULD PRESIDENT OBAMA HAVE REJECTED THE NOBEL PEACE PRIZE?

VOTE AT EXPRESSNIGHTOUT.COM OR TEXT A FOR YES OR B FOR NO TO 98999

Wednesday's Results

DO YOU AGREE WITH OBAMA THAT THE U.S. CAN SPEND ITS WAY OUT OF THE RECESSION?



NO YES

"In the short term, yes, the spending will help. But in the long term, we invite economic disaster that makes the Great Depression look like the '90s by piling on debt without thought of payment. Not to mention military and diplomatic liability from entrusting our economic survival to dictatorships."

COMMENTS BY CONOR NUGENT

SEE HOW YOUR METRO STATION VOTED AT WWW.EXPRESSNIGHTOUT.COM



"Kate Gosselin is somehow among Barbara Walters' '10 Most Fascinating People of 2009.' The only fascinating things to us are that someone stayed married to her for 10 years and that her dead opossum hairstyle stays up. But so be it."

— THEHOLLYWOODGOSSIP.COM DOES NOT THINK THE REALITY SHOW STAR DESERVED WALTERS' ACCLAIM.



Blog Log

"It's good to see people from the older generation of hip-hop embrace technology. Ed Lover has struck Internet gold with his 'C'mon Son!' series."

— SMOKINGSECTION.UPROXX.COM IS A BIG FAN OF THE FORMER "YO! MTV RAPS" AND CURRENT NEW YORK CITY RADIO HOST'S NEWEST WEB SERIES, IN WHICH HE RIPS CELEBRITIES IN THE NEWS.



"IT'S THE HOLIDAY SEASON, and you're working away on your gift list. Normally, you probably make just one. But this year, you really should consider separating out your gift recipients by skin color. Luckily, the New York Times is here to help!"

— WASHINGTONCITYPAPER.COM/BLOGS/CITYDESK IS STUNNED THAT THE NEWSPAPER PUBLISHED A GIFT GUIDE DESIGNED SPECIFICALLY FOR PEOPLE OF COLOR, THAT INCLUDES A KIDS' CD — PRODUCED BY SOLANGE KNOWLES — THAT ALLOWS CHILDREN TO SING REMIXED NURSERY RHYMES.

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Horoscope

SAGITTARIUS (Nov. 22-Dec. 21)

Though you're also dealing with one or two big issues, it's the little things that will prove most important to you at this time.

CAPRICORN (Dec. 22-Jan. 19)

You may be granted a valuable glimpse into the future — and, as usual, it will come to you by way of the past.

AQUARIUS (Jan. 20-Feb. 18) A loved one who feels slighted once again is likely to demand an apology from you for something you may have done a long time ago.

PISCES (Feb. 19-March 20) Someone close to you is confident that things are looking up, but you have the sense that they'll get worse before they get better.

ARIES (March 21-April 19) Your interest in an unusual and perhaps forbidden topic is likely to be piqued. Don't embarrass yourself.

TAURUS (April 20-May 20) A little nostalgia goes a long way, and in the midst of a dear memory, you're likely to get an idea that propels you toward a future success.

GEMINI (May 21-June 20) You can impress others with how smoothly you transition from one thing to the next throughout the day. It's not as easy as it looks.

CANCER (June 21-July 22) Someone who has been by your side for some time is likely to capture your attention in a new and surprising way. Don't get into trouble.

LEO (July 23-Aug. 22) You may actually be seeking out trouble without even knowing it. In fact, you think you're trying to avoid it, but that's not the case.

VIRGO (Aug. 23-Sept. 22) Don't shy away from conversation that involves real feelings. Today, you would benefit from increased honesty and openness.

LIBRA (Sept. 23-Oct. 22) You may need more time to complete a current project according to your own high standards — even though others are already satisfied.

SCORPIO (Oct. 23-Nov. 21) The way you are talking about people from your past will confuse those who know you best. Some think you're making it all up.

Scrabble Grams

PAR SCORE 150-160, BEST SCORE 215

A ₁	I ₁	Y ₄	L ₁	R ₁	C ₃	T ₁

--

RACK 1

A ₁	E ₁	N ₁	N ₁	M ₃	S ₁	W ₄

--

RACK 2

A ₁	E ₁	I ₁	Y ₄	D ₂	M ₃	D ₂

--

RACK 3

A ₁	E ₁	E ₁	N ₁	H ₄	P ₃	C ₃

--

RACK 4

Double Word Score

3rd Letter Triple

Yesterday's Solution

P ₃	R ₁	E ₁	M ₃	A ₁	D ₂	E ₁	RACK 1 =	68
G ₂	O ₁	A ₁	T ₁	E ₁	E ₁	D ₂	RACK 2 =	59
P ₃	A ₁	L ₁	P ₃	A ₁	T ₁	E ₁	RACK 3 =	72
S ₁	A ₁	C ₃	R ₁	U ₁	M ₃		RACK 4 =	10
PAR SCORE 150-160								TOTAL 209

FOUR RACK TOTAL

Make a 2-7 letter word from the letters in each row. Add points of each word using scoring directions at right. 7-letter words get a 50-point bonus. Blank tiles used as any letter have no point value. Scrabble is a trademark of Hasbro in the U.S. and Canada.

Sudoku

DIFFICULT

	2		4	5				1
					8			
		4		3				9
	7			4				2
			7		1			
1				6			8	
6				1		9		
			2					
7				8	5		3	

Yesterday's Solution

2	7	4	9	3	1	5	6	8
8	1	6	2	4	5	7	3	9
9	3	5	7	8	6	4	2	1
3	9	2	1	6	4	8	5	7
6	4	1	5	7	8	3	9	2
5	8	7	3	9	2	1	4	6
4	5	8	6	2	7	9	1	3
7	6	3	4	1	9	2	8	5
1	2	9	8	5	3	6	7	4

Need more Sudoku?
Find another puzzle in the Comics section of The Post every Sunday and in the Style section Monday through Saturday.

© PUZZLES BY PAPPOCOM

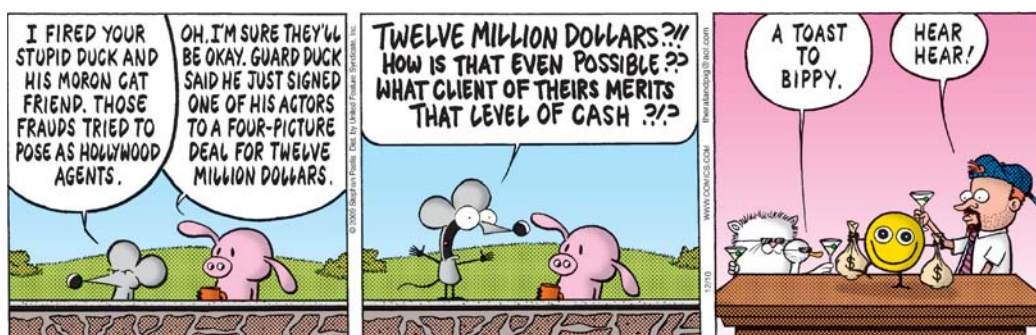
Comics

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POOCH CAFE | PAUL GILLIGAN



PEARLS BEFORE SWINE | STEPHAN PASTIS



Forecast

42 | 24

Today: Partly sunny, windy and colder today. Mainly clear and breezy tonight.

38 | 26

Tomorrow: Mostly sunny, brisk and cold tomorrow. Mainly clear tomorrow night.

Looking Ahead

SAT	SUN	MON
42 27	38 32	44 34

Sun and Moon

Sunrise today: 7:16 a.m.
Sunset today: 4:46 p.m.
Moonrise today: 1:20 a.m.
Moonset today: 12:51 p.m.

Almanac

Normal high: 49
Record high: 71
Normal low: 34
Record low: 4

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**THE SOUTH****Clay Runs Like A Spooked Varmint**

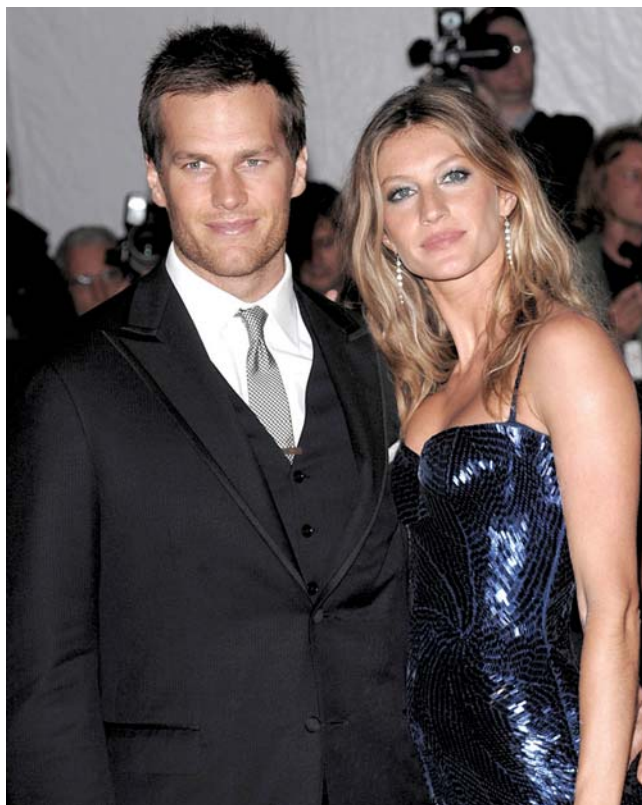
A Wake County, N.C., election board has determined there's evidence showing Clay Aiken may have voted illegally this fall. But officials don't plan further action. The Wake County elections board voted unanimously Wednesday to end its investigation because Aiken wrote a letter asking officials to remove him from their voting rolls, making the issue moot. (AP)

BAD HABITS**Stop Promising People Houses!**

Nicolas Cage's ex is suing the actor and his former business manager, claiming she is owed more than \$13 million and a house. Christina Fulton, the mother of Cage's adult son, Weston, claims Cage promised her a home but that she has now been ordered to leave the property. Fulton is seeking the title and rights to the house, and money for a series of debts she claims were caused by Cage's former business manager. (AP)

**SAD****Tyler Perry's Mother Dies at 64**

Movie producer Tyler Perry says his mother, Willie Maxine Perry, has died. His mother was 64. Tyler Perry announced the news of the Tuesday death on his Web site, where he thanked fans for their prayers. He did not say where his mother died or anything about the cause. The Atlanta Journal-Constitution quoted a 2006 interview with Perry in which he said his mother was the basis for his most popular character, Madea. (AP)



EVAN AGOSTINI/AP

We suggest naming this one Jack, too, for maximum future daddy issues.

FATHER OF TWO**Love Child, Legit Child**

Tom Brady and Gisele Bündchen have welcomed a baby boy. Brady announced the birth Wednesday. He said the boy was born Tuesday and that he and Bündchen had not chosen a name. He called it "a wonderful experience in my life." "Everyone's great," Brady said. "I didn't get much sleep." Brady also has a 2-year-old son, Jack, with actress Bridget Moynahan. Bündchen is a mother for the first time. Brady and Bündchen were married in February in Los Angeles in a small ceremony. (AP)

Siblings**'Thieves DO Like Me Just as Much!'**

Police say they are investigating a burglary at the Los Angeles home of Nicky Hilton. Police were called Tuesday and were told that some unidentified items were missing. Hilton, a clothing designer, is Paris Hilton's younger sister. Paris Hilton, Lindsay Lohan and Orlando Bloom are among several celebrities whose homes have been burglarized recently. (AP)

"I'm caring and generous, and the type of person you'd want to be friends with."



— **RACHEL UCHITEL**, ONE OF **TIGER WOODS'** ALLEGED MISTRESSES, IN AN INTERVIEW WITH OK! MAGAZINE. "IN EVERY STORY, YOU NEED A VILLAIN AND A HERO," SHE SAYS.

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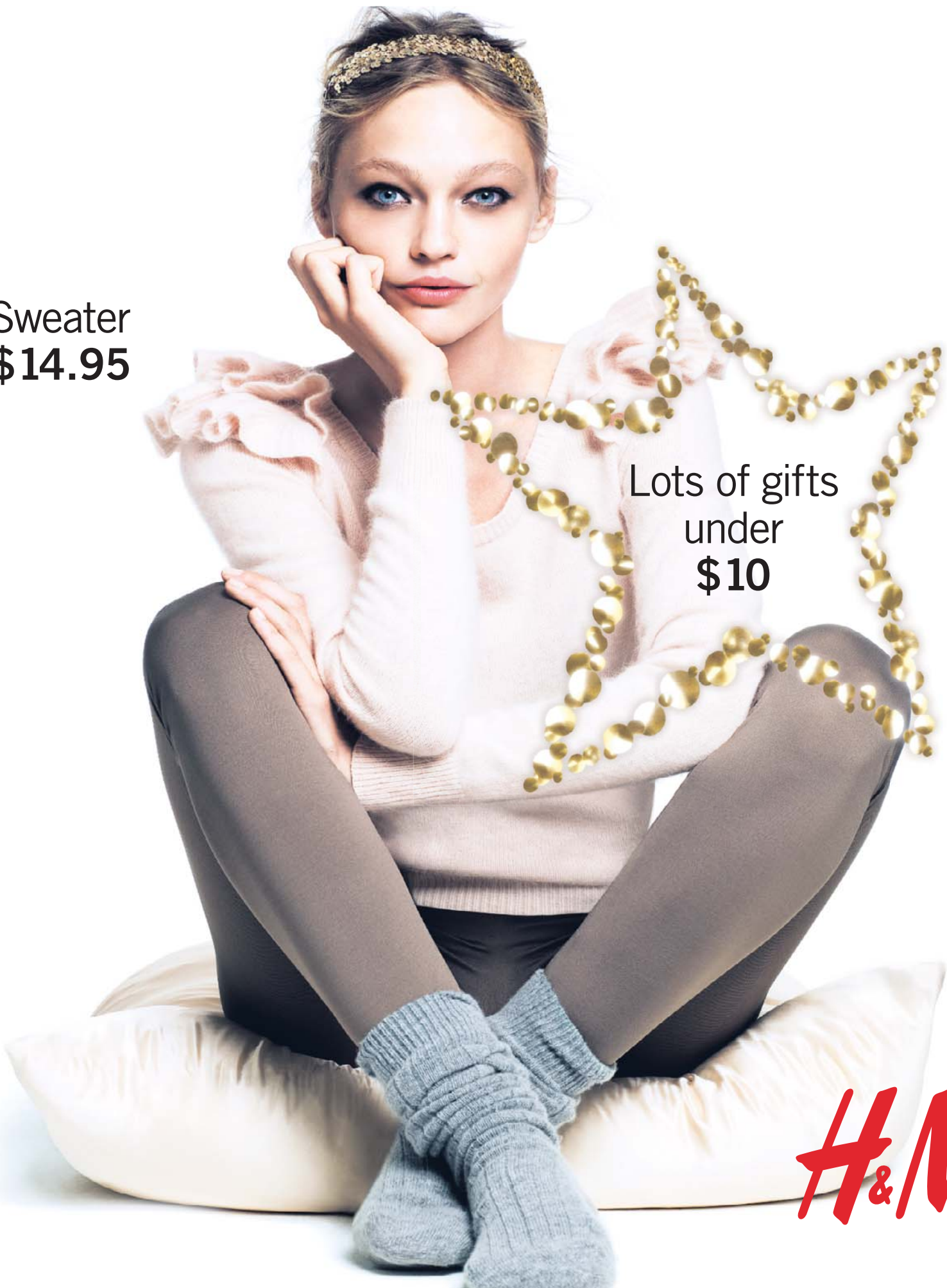
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Alexandria	703-660-8566	7520 Richmond Highway, Alexandria
Arlington	703-243-8974	3632 Lee Highway, Arlington
Arlington (Pen Row)	703-418-9800	1201 South Joyce Street, Unit C14, Arlington
Arlington	703-807-0779	3807 Wilson Boulevard, Arlington
Arundel Mills	410-799-3681	7659 Arundel Mills Boulevard, Hanover
Ashburn	571-223-2651	20020 Ashbrook Commons Plaza, Ashburn
Bailey's Crossroads	703-931-8956	3517 South Jefferson St, Bailey's Crossroads
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Bowie	301-809-5900	15471 Excelsior Drive, Bowie
Capital Centre	301-499-2871	801 Capital Centre Boulevard, Unit G, Largo
Centreville	703-830-3322	14100-A Lee Highway, Centreville
Chantilly	703-817-1743	13806 Metro Tech Drive, Chantilly
Charlottesville	434-975-1171	1646 Seminole Trail, Charlottesville
Charlottesville	434-973-3222	304 Connor Drive, Charlottesville
Charles Town	304-725-1791	116 Flowing Springs Road, Charles Town
Clinton	301-856-8573	8847 Woodyard Road, Clinton
Columbia	410-309-9655	9400 Snowden River Parkway, Columbia
Crofton	410-451-9544	2612 Brandermill Boulevard, Gambrills
Culpeper	540-727-9693	15131 Montanus Drive, Culpeper
Dumfries	703-445-9877	3966-3970 Fetter Park Drive, Dumfries
Dunkirk	410-257-0316	10730 Town Center Boulevard, Dunkirk
Easton	410-822-8370	8168-A Elliott Road, Easton
Easton	410-822-7742	8058 Ocean Gateway, Easton
Edgewater	410-956-3062	3059 Solomons Island Road, Edgewater

Fairfax	703-383-0152	11002 Lee Highway, Fairfax
Fairfax Turnpike	703-426-2600	9502 Main Street, Fairfax
Frederick Outlet	301-682-8882	7315 Grove Road, Frederick
Frederick	301-846-9741	1046-G West Patrick Street, Frederick
Fredericksburg	540-710-7525	10119 Jefferson Davis Hwy, Fredericksburg
Fredericksburg	540-785-1673	1240 Carl D. Silver Parkway, Fredericksburg
Fredericksburg	540-548-0445	5723 Plank Road, Fredericksburg
Front Royal	540-636-7800	50 Riverton Commons, Front Royal
Gainesville	703-753-7899	5131 Wellington Road, Gainesville
Gaithersburg	301-869-9727	451 North Frederick Avenue, Gaithersburg
Germantown	301-515-3000	13052 Middlebrook Road, Germantown
Greenbelt	301-220-0374	5506D Cherrywood Lane, Greenbelt
Hagerstown	301-766-0740	18011 Garland Groh Boulevard, Hagerstown
Hagerstown	301-582-3766	17301 Valley Mall Road, Hagerstown
Herndon	703-481-7900	491 Elden Street, Herndon
Kentlands	301-355-7240	178 Kentlands Boulevard, Gaithersburg
Langley Park	301-431-5737	1425 University Boulevard, Langley Park
Lanham	301-577-7634	9002 Lanham Severn Road, Lanham
LaPlata	301-392-6280	38 Shining Willow Way, LaPlata
Laurel	240-568-0347	14263 Baltimore Boulevard, Laurel
Leesburg	703-443-8000	625 Potomac Station Drive, Leesburg
Leesburg	703-443-2505	536 Fort Evans Road, Leesburg
Lexington Park	301-866-1956	23105 Three Notch Road, Suite B, California
Manassas	703-331-0637	10372-84 Balls Ford Road, Manassas
Manassas	703-367-9177	9654 Liberia Avenue, Manassas
Manassas	703-257-5768	8376 Sudley Road, Manassas

Martinsburg	304-262-0113	784 Foxcroft Avenue, Martinsburg
Martinsburg	304-274-1127	5724 Hammond's Mill Road, Martinsburg
Olney	301-570-2300	18050 Georgia Avenue, Olney
Potomac Mills	703-497-9600	2800 Prince William Parkway, Woodbridge
Prince Frederick	410-414-7440	721 Prince Frederick Blvd, Prince Frederick
Rehoboth Beach	302-645-9625	18756 Coastal Highway, Rehoboth Beach
Rockville	301-738-3764	9701 Traville Gateway Drive, Rockville
Rockville	301-230-2337	12127 Rockville Pike, Rockville
Rockville Extra	301-881-1434	12212 Rockville Pike, Rockville
Seven Corners	703-237-2277	6381 Seven Corners Center, Falls Church
Silver Spring	301-445-5144	10165 New Hampshire Avenue, Silver Spring
Silver Spring	301-587-7700	8204 Georgia Avenue, Silver Spring
Springfield	703-569-7891	6119-A Backlick Road, Springfield
Springfield	703-971-9135	6699-E Frontier Drive, Springfield
Stafford	540-657-1554	370 Garrisonville Road, Suite 10, Stafford
Staunton	540-886-1122	1209 Richmond Avenue, Staunton
Sterling	703-421-3664	45591 Dulles Eastern Plaza, Sterling
Stone Ridge	703-542-8567	42015 Village Center Plaza, Stone Ridge
Tenleytown, DC	202-537-9353	4437-39 Wisconsin Avenue, Washington, DC
Tyson's Corner	703-790-0241	1986 Chain Bridge Road, McLean, Virginia
Vienna	703-938-3555	127 Maple Avenue, Vienna
Waldorf	301-638-0990	3368 Crain Highway, Waldorf
Warrenton	540-351-0056	310 Broadview Street, Warrenton
Wheaton	301-929-0365	2704 University Boulevard West, Wheaton
Winchester	540-662-6621	1869 South Pleasant Valley Road, Winchester